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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Ulysses Williams, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

SEPTEMBER 1983

RELEASE DATE:
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LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1983				REVISED AUGUST 1983				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1982			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,919.4	1,697.7	221.7	11.6	1,909.4	1,676.3	233.1	12.2	1,886.6	1,676.0	210.6	11.2
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	78.1	69.7	8.4	10.8	76.6	67.7	8.9	11.7	75.7	66.7	9.0	11.9
Baton Rouge 2/	239.6	216.7	22.9	9.6	237.0	212.2	24.8	10.5	231.9	208.6	23.3	10.0
Lafayette 3/	101.3	92.8	8.5	8.4	101.8	93.0	8.8	8.7	100.9	94.9	6.0	5.9
Lake Charles 4/	77.2	65.2	12.0	15.5	76.7	64.9	11.8	15.3	76.5	65.3	11.2	14.7
Monroe 5/	58.4	51.9	6.5	11.1	58.4	51.8	6.6	11.3	58.6	51.7	6.9	11.7
New Orleans 6/	518.6	464.0	54.6	10.5	523.1	465.7	57.4	11.0	514.0	461.8	52.2	10.2
Shreveport 7/	169.8	151.0	18.8	11.0	167.4	148.1	19.3	11.5	166.8	149.5	17.3	10.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during September stood at 1,585,900, an increase of 12,700 workers from last month's figure, but 20,300 fewer than September of last year. An increase in the state's manufacturing payrolls was spearheaded by a seasonal upturn in the fruit and vegetable canning industry. Nonmanufacturing employment rose above the previous level as a result of seasonal upturns in public and private schools, the settlement of a labor dispute in the communications industry, and increased hiring at certain retail trade establishments.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Durable goods employment for September, at 89,500, was 300 below last month and 5,500 lower than the same month a year ago. Less demand for concrete, gypsum and plaster products accounted for the decrease in stone, clay and glass products payrolls. Upturns in the manufacture of fabricated structural metal products and certain miscellaneous fabricated metal products were responsible for the increase in fabricated metal products employment. Employment in the electric and electronic equipment industry was lower as the demand for electric lighting and wiring equipment and various miscellaneous electrical equipment and supplies weakened somewhat. Transportation equipment payrolls were down due to less business for the state's shipyards.

Total nondurable goods employment for September, at 103,000, was 1,100 above August's level, but it was 3,600 lower than September a year ago. The main force in this month's increase of nondurable goods employment was a seasonal advance in food and kindred products due to increased activity in vegetable canning. A dropoff in the production of industrial organic chemicals was one of the various reasons for the decrease in chemicals and allied products employment. Employment in apparel and other textile products and in paper and allied products edged up slightly from last month. Other nondurable goods payrolls were down from the August level.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries for the current month was 11,900 higher than last month's level but 11,200 below the comparable period a year earlier. Low demand for crude petroleum and natural gas led to decreases in oil and gas extraction employment for September. Construction moved down due in large part to payroll cutbacks in heavy construction, general building construction, electrical work, and certain miscellaneous trades. Transportation and public utilities employment was up sharply from the August figure mainly as a result of the settlement of a labor dispute in the communication industry. More business for food stores and for eating and drinking establishments resulted in higher trade employment for September. Banking was among the many segments of finance, insurance and real estate that lost employment in September. Gains in services for September were due largely to seasonal employment increases in educational services. The largest increase in nonmanufacturing employment for the current month occurred in government as a result of the opening of state and local schools.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 136,000 production workers in manufacturing increased from $391.25 in August to $407.95 in September, an increase of $16.70 and an increase of $16.31 above September of last year. Average hourly earnings were seven cents higher in September than last month and $0.28 more than September of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.0 for the current month, an increase of 1.4 hours from last month's average of 39.6 hours.

Estimated total unemployment during September amounted to 221,700, a decrease of 11,400 below the August level of 233,100, but it was 11,100 higher than September of last year. The unemployment rate for September was 11.6 percent, a decrease of 0.6 percentage points below last month's rate, but 0.4 percentage points higher than September of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for September was 8.8 percent compared to 9.2 percent in August and 9.7 percent in September of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force increased from 1,909,400 in August to 1,919,400 in September, an increase of 10,000. Total employment, at 1,697,700, was up by 21,400 from last month and 21,700 higher than September a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to go down during the next two to three months as the usual fall seasonal upturn begins. Trade will probably begin to add workers in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. Educational services, both private and public, will likely show additional growth next month as a result of the new school term. On the other hand, construction worker totals may slip in response to severe weather during the winter months. Manufacturing employment may fall slightly.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change from Aug. 1983	Net Change from Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,585.9	1,573.2	1,606.2	+12.7	-20.3
MINING AND QUARRYING	90.5	91.1	96.1	- 0.6	- 5.6
Oil and Gas Extraction	87.2	87.8	92.5	- 0.6	- 5.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.3	3.3	3.6	0	- 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	114.6	115.2	122.1	- 0.6	- 7.5
MANUFACTURING	192.5	191.7	201.6	+ 0.8	- 9.1
Durable Goods	89.5	89.8	95.0	- 0.3	- 5.5
Lumber and Wood Products	13.4	13.4	12.8	0	+ 0.6
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.9	8.1	7.6	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.5	5.1	0	- 1.6
Fabricated Metal Products	16.0	15.8	17.2	+ 0.2	- 1.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	12.0	12.0	13.8	0	- 1.8
Electric & Electronic Equipment	8.4	8.3	9.8	+ 0.1	- 1.4
Transportation Equipment	25.4	25.8	25.6	- 0.4	- 0.2
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	103.0	101.9	106.6	+ 1.1	- 3.6
Food & Kindred Products	25.6	24.4	25.7	+ 1.2	- 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.5	8.4	8.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	11.8	11.7	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.7	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	30.5	30.7	33.3	- 0.2	- 2.8
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.8	12.8	13.2	0	- 0.4
Petroleum Refining	12.1	12.2	12.4	- 0.1	- 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	4.1	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	123.9	119.1	128.5	+ 4.8	- 4.6
Railroad Transportation	7.9	7.9	8.5	0	- 0.6
Transportation, ex. Railroads	75.9	76.2	77.6	- 0.3	- 1.7
Communications & Public Utilities	40.1	35.0	42.4	+ 5.1	- 2.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	367.4	366.9	369.0	+ 0.5	- 1.6
Wholesale Trade	99.5	99.7	101.5	- 0.2	- 2.0
Retail Trade	267.9	267.2	267.5	+ 0.7	+ 0.4
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	58.9	59.2	59.2	- 0.3	- 0.3
Food Stores	47.2	46.8	48.5	+ 0.4	- 1.3
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.0	30.9	30.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	81.5	81.0	79.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.3
Other Retail Trade	49.3	49.3	49.8	0	- 0.5
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	80.2	80.5	79.5	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Banking	26.0	26.1	26.0	- 0.1	0
SERVICES	307.6	306.3	304.7	+ 1.3	+ 2.9
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	20.9	21.0	21.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Other Services	286.7	285.3	283.6	+ 1.4	+ 3.1
GOVERNMENT	309.2	302.4	304.7	+ 6.8	+ 4.6
Federal	34.1	34.0	33.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
State and Local	275.1	268.4	271.3	+ 6.7	+ 3.8
State	98.9	94.9	100.8	+ 4.0	- 1.9
Local	176.2	173.5	170.5	+ 2.7	+ 5.7

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$407.95	$391.25	$391.64	41.0	39.6	40.5	$9.95	$9.88	$9.67
Durable Goods	360.24	353.19	357.75	39.5	39.2	39.4	9.12	9.01	9.08
Lumber & Wood Products	282.35	281.30	257.18	39.6	39.9	37.6	7.13	7.05	6.84
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	368.03	355.45	368.68	42.4	43.4	39.6	8.68	8.19	9.31
Fabricated Metal Products	401.99	394.67	390.93	41.7	39.3	41.5	9.64	9.51	9.42
Machinery, ex. Electrical	362.61	366.52	337.75	39.5	39.2	36.2	9.18	9.35	9.33
Electric & Electronic Equip.	394.35	381.02	406.42	38.7	38.8	40.2	10.19	9.82	10.11
Transportation Equipment	380.98	375.44	355.70	38.6	38.0	37.8	9.87	9.88	9.41
Nondurable Goods	455.38	430.67	426.59	42.4	40.1	41.7	10.74	10.74	10.23
Food & Kindred Products	240.22	238.74	236.48	35.8	34.6	37.3	6.71	6.90	6.34
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	176.36	171.69	153.89	42.6	37.9	33.6	4.14	4.53	4.58
Paper & Allied Products	577.54	559.24	533.25	45.8	44.0	45.0	12.61	12.71	11.85
Printing & Publishing	354.31	312.84	315.75	39.9	36.0	37.5	8.88	8.69	8.42
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	634.04	596.77	595.82	44.0	41.5	41.9	14.41	14.38	14.22
Petroleum & Coal Products	730.36	640.19	601.54	50.3	46.9	48.2	14.52	13.65	12.48
Petroleum Refining	753.94	654.72	616.96	50.6	46.9	48.2	14.90	13.96	12.80
MINING	518.41	496.58	451.78	47.3	45.6	42.5	10.96	10.89	10.63
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	378.65	398.65	452.53	31.9	33.5	39.8	11.87	11.90	11.38
BANKING	219.48	220.66	220.56	37.2	37.4	38.9	5.90	5.90	5.67

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 136,000 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 112,200 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY SEPTEMBER 1983				REVISED AUGUST 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	25,000	21,600	3,400	13.6	24,725	21,125	3,600	14.5
Oakdale (Allen)	6,450	4,950	1,500	23.4	6,350	4,775	1,575	24.8
Napoleonville (Assumption)	11,450	9,850	1,600	14.0	11,350	9,775	1,575	14.5
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,300	9,700	1,600	14.1	11,000	9,375	1,625	14.8
Arcadia (Bienville)	6,975	6,225	750	10.8	6,975	6,150	825	11.8
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,675	4,075	600	13.0	4,575	3,925	650	14.1
Cameron (Cameron)	5,025	4,575	450	9.1	4,925	4,450	475	9.6
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,950	6,250	700	10.2	6,800	6,025	775	11.4
Homer (Claiborne)	7,400	6,675	725	9.7	7,300	6,550	750	10.3
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,150	7,875	1,275	13.9	9,125	7,675	1,450	15.9
Mansfield (DeSoto)	10,925	9,700	1,225	11.2	11,025	9,625	1,400	12.6
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,825	4,150	675	13.9	4,625	3,850	775	16.8
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,625	6,875	750	9.8	7,600	6,775	825	10.8
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,375	12,125	2,250	15.6	14,125	11,700	2,425	17.2
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,800	8,250	1,550	15.9	9,600	7,900	1,700	17.6
New Iberia (Iberia)	40,350	34,725	5,625	13.9	40,500	34,600	5,900	14.6
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,925	13,950	1,975	12.5	15,825	13,750	2,075	13.1
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,300	5,700	600	9.5	6,225	5,600	625	10.2
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	14,500	12,025	2,475	17.1	14,125	11,650	2,475	17.5
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	40,950	36,325	4,625	11.3	40,400	35,600	4,800	11.9
Jena (LaSalle)	5,875	5,250	625	10.7	5,850	5,200	650	11.1
Ruston (Lincoln)	20,575	19,500	1,075	5.2	19,800	18,650	1,150	5.8
Tallulah (Madison)	5,450	4,850	600	11.5	5,150	4,425	725	14.2
Bastrop (Morehouse)	12,950	11,300	1,650	12.7	12,600	10,825	1,775	14.0
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	16,600	14,950	1,650	10.0	16,275	14,550	1,725	10.6
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,825	13,725	1,100	7.5	14,925	13,725	1,200	8.0
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,900	11,400	1,500	11.6	13,075	11,400	1,675	12.8
Coushatta (Red River)	4,100	3,650	450	10.8	3,975	3,525	450	11.5
Rayville (Richland)	7,875	6,775	1,100	14.1	7,700	6,450	1,250	16.3
Many (Sabine)	7,725	6,775	950	12.4	7,650	6,625	1,025	13.3
Norco (St. Charles)	24,000	21,650	2,350	9.8	23,675	21,200	2,475	10.4
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,075	3,650	425	10.4	3,950	3,475	475	11.8
Lutcher (St. James)	8,475	7,300	1,175	13.9	8,350	7,100	1,250	15.1
Reserve (St. John)	17,675	15,325	2,350	13.3	17,575	15,150	2,425	13.8
Opelousas (St. Landry)	36,550	29,775	6,775	18.6	36,350	29,100	7,250	19.9
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,000	17,000	3,000	15.0	19,800	16,675	3,125	15.8
Morgan City (St. Mary)	36,025	30,500	5,525	15.3	35,725	30,000	5,725	16.0
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	34,575	28,675	5,900	17.1	33,800	27,400	6,400	18.9
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,250	2,900	350	10.8	3,050	2,650	400	13.2
Houma (Terrebonne)	50,175	43,475	6,700	13.4	50,400	43,250	7,150	14.2
Farmerville (Union)	7,300	6,400	900	12.4	7,125	6,225	900	12.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	26,000	22,900	3,100	12.0	25,575	22,275	3,300	12.9
Leesville (Vernon)	11,300	9,600	1,700	15.0	11,100	9,350	1,750	15.8
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,875	12,200	2,675	18.1	14,725	11,900	2,825	19.2
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,450	3,600	850	18.9	4,325	3,450	875	20.4
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,300	3,000	300	9.2	3,225	2,900	325	9.9
Winnfield (Winn)	5,550	4,675	875	15.9	5,475	4,550	925	16.8

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	55.5	54.1	54.4	+ 1.4	+ 1.1
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.3	5.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	2.8	2.3	2.6	+ 0.5	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	0.6	0.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.7	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.7	48.8	48.7	+ 0.9	+ 1.0
Construction	3.8	3.7	3.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.6	12.6	12.1	0	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Retail Trade	9.8	9.8	9.3	0	+ 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	1.7	0	+ 0.3
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Services & Mining	11.8	11.6	11.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.5	6.3	6.5	+ 0.2	0
Government	16.0	15.4	15.9	+ 0.6	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Local	7.4	6.8	7.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.1

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Alexandria labor market area increased in September to 55,500. This was a gain of 1,400 over the previous month and an increase of 1,100 from this month a year ago. This months gains were in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing.

Manufacturing employment is up 500 from last month. The increase was in nondurable goods with 400 in food and kindred products and 100 in other nondurable goods. Overall manufacturing has increased 100 as compared to this period last year with the increase being in nondurable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing is up 900 since last month and is estimated at 49,700. The major increases were in other services and mining, and local government, which was brought about by the openings of the public, parochial and private schools. As compared to this month a year ago, nonmanufacturing employment has increased 1,000 with increases noted in the segments of construction, retail trade and health services.

Total employment should remain fairly constant during the next thirty days with a slight decrease in the unemployment rate.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	209.6	204.7	207.1	+ 4.9	+ 2.5
MANUFACTURING	24.3	24.4	25.2	- 0.1	- 0.9
Durable Goods	4.6	4.7	4.9	- 0.1	- 0.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.3	0.3	0.4	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.1	0.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	2.2	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	19.7	19.7	20.3	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	2.6	2.5	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.9	14.0	14.9	- 0.1	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	185.3	180.3	181.9	+ 5.0	+ 3.4
Mining	1.4	1.5	1.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	21.8	21.5	20.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.0	9.2	10.4	+ 0.8	- 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	48.1	47.7	46.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
Wholesale Trade	11.6	11.6	11.6	0	0
Retail Trade	36.5	36.1	35.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.0	12.1	12.0	- 0.1	0
Services	38.5	38.3	37.5	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
Government	53.5	50.0	53.0	+ 3.5	+ 0.5

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$490.06	$483.11	$457.02	42.8	41.9	39.5	$11.45	$11.53	$11.57
Petro-Chemicals	632.34	626.94	626.06	43.7	43.0	46.0	14.47	14.58	13.61

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 15,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 209,600 during September, up 4,900 from August's revised estimate of 204,700 and up 2,500 over the total for last September. Manufacturing employment was down 100 during the current period while nonmanufacturing increased 5,000.

Employment in manufacturing industries totaled 24,300 in September, down 100 from the August revised estimate of 24,400. Durable goods lost 100 due to less activity in concrete, gypsum, and plastic products. Nondurable goods had no change; however, food and kindred products were seasonally up 100 while chemicals and petroleum products were down 100 due to less business in industrial organic chemicals.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 185,300 was up 5,000 during the current period. Mining employment declined due to lower production of crude petroleum and natural gas. Gains in construction were due to increased activity in heavy construction and in special trade contractors. Settlement of a labor dispute in the communication industry helped the transportation and public utilities return to a normal level. Wholesale trade had no change while retail trade employment improved due to more business in eating and drinking places and in miscellaneous shopping goods stores. Finance, insurance, and real estate was down due in part to employment reductions in commercial and stock savings banks. Services employment increased due to seasonal activities in educational institutions. Government had a large increase during the current period due to the opening of public schools for the fall semester.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 216,700 during September, an increase of 4,500 from August's revised estimate of 212,200. Unemployment was estimated at 22,900 in September, down 1,900 from the revised August estimate and down 400 from last September. September's unemployment rate dropped to 9.6 percent from the August revised rate of 10.5 percent. The rate stood at 10.0 percent last September. The local civilian labor force totaled 239,600 during September, up 2,600 from August and up 7,700 over September of last year.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge Area's 15,600 production workers in all manufacturing was $490.06 in September, up $6.95 from August's revised average. Average weekly hours at 42.8 were up 0.9 hour and average hourly earnings were down eight cents. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

An announced lay off will affect manufacturing employment during the coming months; however, the approaching holiday season employment should help total non-ag employment to improve.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 3,182 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 450 applicants in jobs during September.

The consumer price index for August, 1983 for all urban consumers was 300.3 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 299.5 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	94.6	93.9	99.2	+ 0.7	- 4.6
MANUFACTURING	5.0	5.0	5.2	0	- 0.2
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	3.2	0	- 0.4
Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.0	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	89.6	88.9	94.0	+ 0.7	- 4.4
Mining	16.8	16.9	19.7	- 0.1	- 2.9
Construction	6.1	6.2	6.8	- 0.1	- 0.7
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	7.5	7.5	7.8	0	- 0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.8	23.9	24.7	- 0.1	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	7.6	7.6	7.7	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	16.2	16.3	17.0	- 0.1	- 0.8
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.9	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Food Stores	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Other Retail Trade	9.6	9.6	10.2	0	- 0.6
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
Services	20.4	20.9	20.8	- 0.5	- 0.4
Government	11.2	9.7	10.5	+ 1.5	+ 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during September stood at 94,600, an increase of 700 over August, but 4,600 below the comparable figure a year ago. The increase was centered in the government segment of nonmanufacturing due mostly to the seasonal hiring for the new school term.

Monthly employment for nonmanufacturing at 89,600 was higher than the August level of 88,900 and 4,400 lower than the same period of time a year ago.

Manufacturing remained at the same level with durable and nondurable goods staying constant.

The claims activity has started to decrease. Experts in the oil industry claim that it has bottomed out. There has been a gradual trend in increased drilling activity.

Lafayette's unemployment rate is expected to edge downward during the next two to three months as the usual fall upturn begins. Seasonal hiring in the retail trade and service areas will be responsible for this.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	61.1	61.0	62.7	+ 0.1	- 1.6
MANUFACTURING	9.7	9.8	10.7	- 0.1	- 1.0
Durable Goods	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.7	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	8.8	8.9	9.6	- 0.1	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.9	8.0	8.7	- 0.1	- 0.8
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	51.4	51.2	52.0	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Mining	2.4	2.3	2.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	4.4	4.5	5.9	- 0.1	- 1.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.7	4.9	4.7	- 0.2	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	15.2	15.0	14.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.4	3.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	11.7	11.6	11.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	- 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.4	3.4	0	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.1	3.1	2.9	0	+ 0.2
Services	11.1	11.1	10.7	0	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.3	10.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.1

LAKE CHARLES
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonfarm payroll employment inched upward from August due chiefly to seasonal gains in some nonmanufacturing industry subgroups. Total wage and salary employment, in September, is estimated at 1,600 below the year-ago level. In this instance manufacturing garnered most of the loss.

Nonmanufacturing employment climbed 200 over mid-August to the current estimate of 51,400. Gains in mining, trade and government totalling 500 were reduced to 200 by losses in construction, and transportation & public utilities totalling 300. Over-the-year nonfactory losses totalled 600 with the largest loss occurring in construction.

The manufacturing job total dipped 100 below last month and this was centered in nondurable goods. The current estimate falls 1,000 below the September 1982 total.

Employment may inch upward and unemployment may dip slightly during the next 30 days.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Aug. 1983	Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.9	51.3	52.1	- 0.4	- 1.2
MANUFACTURING	7.3	7.1	7.3	+ 0.2	0
Durable Goods	2.7	2.5	2.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.3	0.2	0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	2.4	2.3	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.6	4.9	0	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.2	0	- 0.3
NONMANUFACTURING	43.6	44.2	44.8	- 0.6	- 1.2
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Construction	3.7	3.8	3.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.7	0	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.7	13.6	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.2	3.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	9.6	9.4	9.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.5	2.4	2.5	+ 0.1	0
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.9	4.0	3.9	- 0.1	0
Services	9.9	10.0	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.7	0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.1	4.2	4.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	9.3	9.7	10.4	- 0.4	- 1.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by an estimated 400, to 50,900 during mid-September.

Manufacturing experienced a gain of 200, and was estimated at 7,300. Gains were in durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing declined by 600 to an estimated 43,600. The only segment showing an increase was wholesale and retail trade with a minimal gain of 100. Government showed the greatest loss, 400, as programs for summer youths came to a close. Construction, services, and finance, insurance and real estate each had minimal losses of an estimated 100 workers. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next 30 days employment is expected to rise slightly while unemployment remains high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	502.6	501.7	512.6	+ 0.9	-10.0
MANUFACTURING	43.5	43.8	46.6	- 0.3	- 3.1
Durable Goods	25.5	25.9	27.8	- 0.4	- 2.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	3.6	3.6	3.7	0	- 0.1
Machinery	3.2	3.3	3.5	- 0.1	- 0.3
Transportation Equipment	14.2	14.5	14.8	- 0.3	- 0.6
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	9.5	9.8	11.0	- 0.3	- 1.5
Other Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	2.8	0	- 1.3
Nondurable Goods	18.0	17.9	18.8	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	7.5	7.4	7.9	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	459.1	457.9	466.0	+ 1.2	- 6.9
Mining	20.5	20.6	20.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Construction	31.4	31.0	31.7	+ 0.4	- 0.3
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	47.5	46.4	50.9	+ 1.1	- 3.4
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	16.7	17.2	19.0	- 0.5	- 2.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	127.8	127.4	129.6	+ 0.4	- 1.8
Wholesale Trade	33.6	33.7	36.5	- 0.1	- 2.9
Retail Trade	94.2	93.7	93.1	+ 0.5	+ 1.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.1	31.1	31.5	0	- 0.4
Services	123.9	122.8	123.0	+ 1.1	+ 0.9
Government	76.9	78.6	78.5	- 1.7	- 1.6
Federal	14.7	14.8	14.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
State	19.0	18.6	20.5	+ 0.4	- 1.5
Local	43.2	45.2	43.1	- 2.0	+ 0.1

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$366.68	$340.96	$346.32	39.9	37.8	37.0	$9.19	$9.02	$9.36
Durable Goods	385.69	358.59	369.51	40.9	38.6	37.4	9.43	9.29	9.88
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	380.80	354.45	359.16	42.5	42.5	40.4	8.96	8.34	8.89
Fabricated Metal Products	482.42	454.10	388.39	43.5	42.4	36.4	11.09	10.71	10.67
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	354.35	323.56	357.34	38.6	35.4	38.3	9.18	9.14	9.33
Nondurable Goods	340.07	314.03	307.22	38.6	36.6	36.4	8.81	8.58	8.44
Food & Kindred Products	272.88	261.34	255.07	37.9	35.8	37.4	7.20	7.30	6.82
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	130.98	127.87	120.25	29.5	30.3	27.9	4.44	4.22	4.31
Paper & Allied Products	372.27	341.14	319.61	43.9	41.3	38.6	8.48	8.26	8.28
Printing & Publishing	343.44	298.34	308.09	42.4	38.2	39.6	8.10	7.81	7.78
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	574.00	566.71	565.28	40.0	39.3	35.8	14.35	14.42	15.79

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,100 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in September increased to 502,600, up 900 from August. Nonmanufacturing benefitted from the settlement of a labor dispute in communication along with seasonal upturns in other industries. Manufacturing was hurt by layoffs by ship and boatbuilding and repairing. Since September of 1982, nonagricultural wage and salary employment has lost 10,000 workers.

In September, manufacturing employment totaled 43,500, 300 less than last month. Small scattered layoffs in machinery were offset by seasonal increases in food and kindred products. The biggest losses were in ship and boatbuilding and repairing where area shipyards reported the cutback of 300 workers. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 2,300.

Nonmanufacturing changes were highlighted by the settlement of a labor dispute in communication. Less favorably, water transportation moved down to the lowest level in several years. Services added a total of 1,100 workers, with gains in some industries offsetting decreases in others. Private educational services pulled back up to a normal level as the fall school term began. Amusement services reflected the openings of the autumn sports and cultural seasons. Of concern were decreases exhibited by the hotel-motel industry, business services, private health services, and miscellaneous services. Retail trade showed a gain largely in employment by eating and drinking places and apparel stores. Wholesale trade tapered off slighlty. Construction displayed a significant increase, partly indicating preparations for the 1984 World's Fair. Government exhibited normal seasonal changes. In local government, layoffs of summer workers were partly offset by callbacks as the fall term began in the public schools. State governmnet pushed up seasonally in institutions of higher learning. Mining showed a small decrease. Finance insurance, and real estate revealed no significant change. Over the year, nonmanufacturing employment is down by 6,900.

Average weekly earnings for area production workers totaled $366.68 in September, up $25.72 from last month. Average hourly earnings increased by $0.17 and work schedules were an average 2 hours and 10 minutes longer. Average weekly earnings increased $20.36 from this same time last year.

Estimated unemployment in September decreased to 54,600, down 2,800 from August. Normal early autumn changes scattered throughout the economy in both employment and unemployment accounted for much of the downturn. Joblessness presently comprises 10.5 percent (not seasonally adjusted) of the labor force compared to 11.0 percent (revised) in August and 10.2 percent in September of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 14,253. Approximately 43.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 30.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months will hopefully show some overall increase. Public and private educational services will probably add workers as the fall school term moves further along. Preparations for the 1984 World's Fair will benefit many industries. Retail trade will begin to feel the effects of shopping for the holiday season. Unemployment is likely to show some decrease as employment registers an increase.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Sept. 1983*	Aug. 1983**	Sept. 1982**	Net Change From Aug. 1983	Net Change From Sept. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	149.5	147.0	152.1	+ 2.5	- 2.6
MANUFACTURING	24.3	24.3	25.3	0	- 1.0
Durable Goods	18.3	18.3	19.2	0	- 0.9
Lumber and Wood Products	1.6	1.7	1.4	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Metals and Machinery	10.8	10.7	13.6	+ 0.1	- 2.8
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.7	3.7	4.1	0	- 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	7.1	7.0	9.5	+ 0.1	- 2.4
Other Durable Goods.	5.9	5.9	4.2	0	+ 1.7
Nondurable Goods	6.0	6.0	6.1	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.7	1.9	0	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	125.2	122.7	126.8	+ 2.5	- 1.6
Mining	7.0	7.1	7.8	- 0.1	- 0.8
Construction	8.4	8.3	8.4	+ 0.1	0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	8.8	8.7	9.4	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.6	34.5	35.6	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Wholesale Trade	8.3	8.3	9.6	0	- 1.3
Retail Trade	26.3	26.2	26.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.0	7.9	7.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	31.9	32.0	32.7	- 0.1	- 0.8
Government	26.5	24.2	25.0	+ 2.3	+ 1.5

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**	Sept. '83*	Aug. '83**	Sept. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$365.96	$371.94	$353.51	38.2	39.4	39.9	$9.58	$9.44	$8.86
Lumber and Wood Products	220.89	223.67	226.55	39.8	40.3	39.4	5.55	5.55	5.75
Metals and Machinery	373.74	370.94	417.49	39.3	39.8	41.5	9.51	9.32	10.06
Food and Kindred Products	199.76	200.53	215.77	33.8	33.2	38.6	5.91	6.04	5.59
Printing and Publishing	210.82	240.04	243.87	29.2	30.5	34.3	7.22	7.87	7.11
Petroleum and Coal Products	523.27	517.33	506.57	45.7	45.3	47.7	11.45	11.42	10.62

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 18,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment for the area gained 2,500 from the revised August estimate, but remains 2,600 below the September, 1982 total. The manufacturing total is unchanged from last month and is 1,000 less than one year ago. Nonmanufacturing employment shows an increase in government as the new school year begins.

Manufacturing employment at 24,300 remains the same as the revised August estimate. A gain of 100 in metals and machinery was offset by an equal loss in lumber and wood products employment.

Nonmanufacturing total employment increased from the revised August estimate of 122,700 to 125,200. This employment gain of 2,500 resulted primarily from school employees returning for the 1983-84 school year. In addition to government, an increase of 100 occurred in construction, transportation and public utilities, trade and finance, insurance and real estate. Employment in both mining and services dropped 100 during the past month.

Average weekly earnings of 18,800 production workers were $365.96, down from a revised August figure of $371.94. Average weekly hours dropped from 39.4 last month to 38.2. Average hourly earnings increased from $9.44 last month to $9.58.

This area has a civilian labor force of 169,800, including 151,000 employed and 18,800 unemployed. The unemployed make up 11.0 percent of the total labor force.

No significant changes are expected in this area during the next few months. The end to the racing season will cause a decline in services employment. Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment will likely remain near the present level. The unemployment total is expected to hold near the present estimate.

12/13/83 S3320-2 A

LOUISIANA

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Ulysses Williams, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

OCTOBER 1983

RELEASE DATE:
November 22, 1983

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 1983				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1983				REVISED OCTOBER 1982			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,929.5	1,719.1	210.4	10.9	1,924.3	1,698.8	225.5	11.7	1,892.6	1,675.8	216.8	11.5
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	78.1	70.3	7.8	10.0	78.3	69.8	8.5	10.9	76.1	67.0	9.1	12.0
Baton Rouge 2/	243.0	221.0	22.0	9.1	241.0	217.4	23.6	9.8	233.3	209.5	23.8	10.2
Lafayette 3/	103.1	94.9	8.2	7.9	101.5	92.9	8.6	8.5	101.8	95.4	6.4	6.3
Lake Charles 4/	77.2	65.8	11.4	14.8	77.2	65.0	12.2	15.8	76.7	65.3	11.4	14.9
Monroe 5/	57.9	51.6	6.3	10.8	58.4	51.8	6.6	11.3	58.4	51.4	7.0	12.0
New Orleans 6/	523.6	471.9	51.7	9.9	519.4	463.9	55.5	10.7	517.3	463.9	53.4	10.3
Shreveport 7/	171.2	153.1	18.1	10.6	170.0	151.0	19.0	11.2	166.2	148.1	18.1	10.9

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during October stood at 1,596,000, an increase of 8,800 workers from September, but 12,500 below the comparable period a year ago. Manufacturing employment was up in October as a result of a seasonal increase in the food industry. Seasonal upturns in state and local schools contributed much to the increase in nonmanufacturing payrolls for the current month.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Monthly employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, at 89,700 for October, was 200 higher than the September level, but 5,100 below October a year ago. Increased activity at logging camps and at sawmills and planing mills resulted in an increase in employment for the lumber and wood products industry. Stone, clay and glass products employment was higher this month as the production of concrete, gypsum and plaster products increased. Declining activity at iron and steel foundries and nonferrous foundries accounted for the decreased payrolls in the primary metal industries. Fabricated metal products employment moved up as increases occurred in the production of fabricated structural metal products. The machinery, except electrical, industry was down as a result of cutbacks in the production of construction and related machinery and general industrial machinery. Fewer employees engaged in manufacturing communication equipment accounted for the lower level in electric and electronic equipment. An increase in business for ship and boat building and repairing firms was responsible for the gain in transportation equipment employment.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for October amounted to 104,500, an increase of 1,400 above last month's level, but a drop of 1,900 from October of last year. A seasonal increase in food and kindred products payrolls due to increased sugarcane processing primarily accounted for the upward turn in nondurable goods employment. Employment edged up slightly in printing and publishing and in other nondurable goods. Paper and allied products employment was down from last month.

The state's nonmanufacturing employment for October, at 1,401,800, was 7,200 more than last month's figure, but 5,500 lower than the same month a year ago. Mining employment for October was up due to an increase in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas. Additional activity in general building construction and an increase in the number of heavy construction projects accounted for the rise in construction employment this month. Increases in motor freight transportation and warehousing activity were instrumental in the upturn of transportation and public utilities. Trade payrolls were up in October largely as a result of increased business in department stores and eating and drinking establishments. A drop in real estate payrolls was especially significant in the lower level of employment exhibited by the finance, insurance and real estate segment of nonmanufacturing. Seasonal drops at certain racetracks contributed to the decrease in services employment this month. Government employment increased primarily as the result of public educational institutions continuing their seasonal increase.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 137,300 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $402.17 in September to $399.27 in October, a decrease of $2.90, but an increase of $8.98 above October of last year. Average hourly earnings were $0.12 lower in October than last month, but $0.36 higher than October a year ago. Weekly hours averaged 40.7 during October, an increase of 0.2 hours from last month's figure.

Total unemployment in Louisiana, estimated at 210,400 for October, was down by 15,100 from September's level of 225,500 and 6,400 lower than October a year ago. The unemployment rate for October was 10.9 percent, a decrease of 0.8 percentage points below last month's rate and 0.6 percentage points lower than October of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for October was 8.4 percent compared to 8.8 percent in September and 9.9 percent for October a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force increased from 1,924,300 in September to 1,929,500 in October, a gain of 5,200 and 36,900 more than the comparable period a year ago. Total employment moved from 1,698,800 last month to 1,719,100 for the current month, an increase of 20,300 and 43,300 higher than October a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to undergo a decline in the upcoming month's due to hiring for the holiday season. Seasonal growth will probably be evident in retail trade. Government employment may show an increase next month. Construction payrolls are expected to drop during the winter months as a result of severe weather.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Net Change from Sept. 1983	Net Change from Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,596.0	1,587.2	1,608.5	+ 8.8	-12.5
MINING AND QUARRYING	91.1	90.6	95.8	+ 0.5	- 4.7
Oil and Gas Extraction	87.8	87.2	92.3	+ 0.6	- 4.5
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.3	3.4	3.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	116.4	115.0	121.4	+ 1.4	- 5.0
MANUFACTURING	194.2	192.6	201.2	+ 1.6	- 7.0
Durable Goods	89.7	89.5	94.8	+ 0.2	- 5.1
Lumber and Wood Products	13.5	13.4	12.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.8	0.7	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	8.0	7.9	7.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.5	4.5	- 0.1	- 1.1
Fabricated Metal Products	16.2	16.0	17.1	+ 0.2	- 0.9
Machinery, Except Electrical	11.9	12.0	13.7	- 0.1	- 1.8
Electric & Electronic Equipment	8.2	8.4	9.8	- 0.2	- 1.6
Transportation Equipment	25.6	25.4	26.1	+ 0.2	- 0.5
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	104.5	103.1	106.4	+ 1.4	- 1.9
Food & Kindred Products	27.0	25.7	27.4	+ 1.3	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.5	8.5	8.2	0	+ 0.3
Paper & Allied Products	11.7	11.8	10.9	- 0.1	+ 0.8
Printing & Publishing	9.9	9.8	9.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	30.5	30.5	33.0	0	- 2.5
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.8	12.8	13.2	0	- 0.4
Petroleum Refining	12.2	12.1	12.4	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.1	4.0	4.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	124.2	124.0	128.4	+ 0.2	- 4.2
Railroad Transportation	7.9	7.9	8.5	0	- 0.6
Transportation, ex. Railroads	76.2	75.9	77.6	+ 0.3	- 1.4
Communications & Public Utilities	40.1	40.2	42.3	- 0.1	- 2.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	368.3	367.4	368.5	+ 0.9	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	99.6	99.4	101.6	+ 0.2	- 2.0
Retail Trade	268.7	268.0	266.9	+ 0.7	+ 1.8
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	59.3	59.0	59.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Food Stores	47.4	47.3	48.2	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.1	31.0	30.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	81.8	81.4	78.9	+ 0.4	+ 2.9
Other Retail Trade	49.1	49.3	50.0	- 0.2	- 0.9
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	80.0	80.2	79.6	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Banking	26.0	26.0	26.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	307.7	307.8	303.9	- 0.1	+ 3.8
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.3	21.0	21.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Other Services	286.4	286.8	282.7	- 0.4	+ 3.7
GOVERNMENT	314.1	309.6	309.7	+ 4.5	+ 4.4
Federal	34.2	34.1	33.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
State and Local	279.9	275.5	276.2	+ 4.4	+ 3.7
State	101.5	100.6	102.1	+ 0.9	- 0.6
Local	178.4	174.9	174.1	+ 3.5	+ 4.3

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* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$399.27	$402.17	$390.29	40.7	40.5	41.3	$9.81	$9.93	$9.45
Durable Goods	351.62	358.29	364.81	39.2	39.2	40.4	8.97	9.14	9.03
Lumber & Wood Products	282.50	284.01	258.52	39.4	39.5	38.7	7.17	7.19	6.68
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	356.09	378.68	386.61	43.8	42.5	43.1	8.31	8.91	8.97
Fabricated Metal Products	359.75	379.85	377.67	38.6	39.9	39.3	9.32	9.52	9.61
Machinery, ex. Electrical	342.91	326.89	382.31	37.6	36.2	38.5	9.12	9.03	9.93
Electric & Electronic Equip.	380.60	399.75	368.55	39.4	39.0	37.8	9.66	10.25	9.75
Transportation Equipment	392.63	396.01	366.56	39.5	39.8	39.8	9.94	9.95	9.21
Nondurable Goods	446.48	447.07	417.08	42.2	41.9	42.3	10.58	10.67	9.86
Food & Kindred Products	246.77	242.95	249.08	38.2	36.1	40.9	6.46	6.73	6.09
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	178.88	173.34	152.32	41.6	40.5	33.7	4.30	4.28	4.52
Paper & Allied Products	617.58	592.87	505.46	46.4	45.5	44.3	13.31	13.03	11.41
Printing & Publishing	362.88	353.12	305.99	40.5	39.9	37.0	8.96	8.85	8.27
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	617.39	618.05	581.15	42.2	43.1	41.9	14.63	14.34	13.87
Petroleum & Coal Products	648.38	671.20	593.29	47.5	49.1	46.9	13.65	13.67	12.65
Petroleum Refining	666.37	689.21	606.36	47.7	49.3	46.5	13.97	13.98	13.04
MINING	515.04	512.26	437.75	48.0	46.4	42.5	10.73	11.04	10.30
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	481.92	378.65	451.52	40.6	31.9	39.4	11.87	11.87	11.47
BANKING	224.06	218.83	221.56	38.9	37.6	38.6	5.76	5.82	5.74

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 137,300 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 112,700 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 1983				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	25,200	21,900	3,300	13.1	25,025	21,625	3,400	13.6
Oakdale (Allen)	6,375	4,950	1,425	22.3	6,475	4,950	1,525	23.5
Napoleonville (Assumption)	11,375	9,850	1,525	13.4	11,475	9,850	1,625	14.1
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,325	9,850	1,475	13.1	11,325	9,700	1,625	14.3
Arcadia (Bienville)	6,850	6,125	725	10.6	7,000	6,225	775	11.0
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,700	4,125	575	12.2	4,700	4,075	625	13.1
Cameron (Cameron)	5,100	4,625	475	9.3	5,050	4,600	450	9.2
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,925	6,275	650	9.3	6,950	6,250	700	10.2
Homer (Claiborne)	7,400	6,725	675	9.1	7,425	6,700	725	9.8
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,075	7,950	1,125	12.4	9,175	7,900	1,275	13.9
Mansfield (DeSoto)	10,825	9,700	1,125	10.4	10,975	9,725	1,250	11.4
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,675	4,100	575	12.2	4,825	4,150	675	14.1
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,775	7,050	725	9.3	7,675	6,900	775	10.1
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,375	12,250	2,125	14.9	14,450	12,150	2,300	15.9
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,600	8,175	1,425	14.7	9,825	8,250	1,575	16.0
New Iberia (Iberia)	40,175	34,950	5,225	13.0	40,475	34,775	5,700	14.1
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,750	13,900	1,850	11.7	16,000	13,950	2,050	12.8
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,300	5,725	575	9.2	6,325	5,725	600	9.6
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	14,450	12,075	2,375	16.4	14,550	12,025	2,525	17.4
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	41,550	37,100	4,400	10.6	41,100	36,375	4,725	11.5
Jena (LaSalle)	5,825	5,225	600	10.2	5,875	5,250	625	10.7
Ruston (Lincoln)	20,975	19,750	1,225	5.8	20,600	19,525	1,075	5.3
Tallulah (Madison)	5,075	4,575	500	9.8	5,275	4,675	600	11.5
Bastrop (Morehouse)	12,875	11,425	1,450	11.3	12,975	11,325	1,605	12.8
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	16,575	15,075	1,500	9.0	16,650	14,975	1,675	10.0
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,900	13,800	1,100	7.4	14,850	13,725	1,125	7.5
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,850	11,350	1,500	11.7	12,950	11,425	1,525	11.8
Coushatta (Red River)	4,050	3,650	400	9.7	4,100	3,650	450	10.9
Rayville (Richland)	7,750	6,800	950	12.4	7,875	6,775	1,100	14.1
Many (Sabine)	7,750	6,900	850	10.9	7,750	6,775	975	12.6
Norco (St. Charles)	24,375	22,100	2,275	9.3	24,100	21,675	2,425	10.0
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,125	3,700	425	10.2	4,075	3,650	425	10.5
Lutcher (St. James)	8,475	7,300	1,175	13.8	8,525	7,325	1,200	14.1
Reserve (St. John)	17,800	15,525	2,275	12.8	17,725	15,350	2,375	13.4
Opelousas (St. Landry)	36,175	29,875	6,300	17.4	36,650	29,800	6,850	18.7
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,100	17,225	2,875	14.3	20,075	17,025	3,050	15.2
Morgan City (St. Mary)	36,000	30,600	5,400	15.0	36,150	30,550	5,600	15.5
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	34,600	29,000	5,600	16.2	34,750	28,725	6,025	17.4
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,175	2,875	300	9.8	3,275	2,900	375	11.1
Houma (Terrebonne)	49,975	43,825	6,150	12.3	50,425	43,525	6,900	13.7
Farmerville (Union)	7,300	6,450	850	11.6	26,100	22,925	3,175	12.2
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,625	22,600	3,025	11.8	7,350	6,425	925	12.5
Leesville (Vernon)	11,400	9,800	1,600	14.1	11,350	9,625	1,725	15.1
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,700	12,300	2,400	16.3	14,900	12,200	2,700	18.2
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,325	3,600	725	16.8	4,475	3,625	850	18.9
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,275	2,975	300	8.8	3,325	3,000	325	9.7
Winnfield (Winn)	5,600	4,800	800	14.2	5,550	4,675	875	15.9

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	55.4	55.5	54.6	- 0.1	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.6	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.6	49.7	48.9	- 0.1	+ 0.7
Construction	3.7	3.8	3.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.4	2.5	2.5	- 0.1	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.5	12.6	12.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.9	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	9.7	9.8	9.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.4	2.3	- 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Services & Mining	11.9	11.8	11.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.5	6.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	16.1	16.0	15.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
State	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Local	7.5	7.4	7.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area decreased in October to 55,400. This was a loss of 100 from the previous month but an overall gain of 800 from this month a year ago. This months loss was in nonmanufacturing.

Total manufacturing employment remained unchanged during the past thirty days. Compared to this period a year ago, manufacturing employment has increased by 100, with durable goods declining 100 and nondurable goods increasing by 200.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing is down 100 since last month and is estimated to be 49,600. Several slight gains and losses are noted in the different segments. Gains were in services and government with losses in construction, trans., comm., & utilities, and retail trade. As compared to this month a year ago, nonmanufacturing employment has increased 700. The increases were in all major categories except trans., comm., & utilities, and finance, ins. & real estate.
Total employment is expected to remain about the same, with the number of unemployed declining slightly during the next thirty days.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Net Change From Sept. 1983	Net Change From Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	211.4	210.1	207.5	+ 1.3	+ 3.9
MANUFACTURING	24.6	24.4	25.1	+ 0.2	- 0.5
Durable Goods	4.7	4.7	4.7	0	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Nondurable Goods	19.9	19.7	20.4	+ 0.2	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	2.8	2.6	2.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.9	13.9	14.9	0	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	186.8	185.7	182.4	+ 1.1	+ 4.4
Mining	1.5	1.4	1.5	+ 0.1	0
Construction	22.0	21.6	20.8	+ 0.4	+ 1.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.2	10.0	10.4	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	49.0	48.3	46.9	+ 0.7	+ 2.1
Wholesale Trade	11.7	11.6	11.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	37.3	36.7	35.3	+ 0.6	+ 2.0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.1	12.0	12.0	+ 0.1	+0.1
Services	38.4	38.5	37.2	- 0.1	+ 1.2
Government	53.6	53.9	53.6	- 0.3	0

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$484.83	$483.00	$462.92	43.6	42.0	40.5	$11.12	$11.50	$11.43
Petro-Chemicals	638.44	631.62	606.52	44.0	43.5	44.5	14.51	14.52	13.63

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 15,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 211,400 during October, up 1,300 from September's revised estimate of 210,100 and up 3,900 over the total for last October. Manufacturing employment was up 200 and nonmanufacturing was up 1,100 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing industries totaled 24,600 in October, up 200 from the September revised estimate of 24,400. Durable goods at 4,700 had no change during the current period. Nondurable goods at 19,900 for October, was 200 above the September total. The total increase is in food and kindred products and results from seasonal increases in sugar and confectionary products.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 186,800 was up 1,100 during October. Some small adjustments produced an employment increase in the mining industries. Construction was up due to increased activity in general building contractors - non residential buildings, electrical work and in plumbing, heating (except electric), and air conditioning. Transportation and public utilities was up due to increased activity in most of the major groups. Higher trade employment in October resulted from seasonal increases in department stores and more business in eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance and real estate employment increased during October due to more business in mortgage bankers and brokers, fire, marine, and casualty insurance, and in insurance agents, brokers, and service. Employment was down in service industries due to less business in hotels, motels, and tourists courts and in photographic studios. Government employment drop was due to termination of summer workers and reductions in public hospitals.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 221,000 during October, up 3,600 over September's revised 217,400 estimate. Unemployment totaled 22,000 in October, down 1,600 from last month's revised estimate and down 300 from October of last year. October's unemployment rate at 9.1 percent, dropped from the September revised rate of 9.8 percent. The local civilian labor force totaled 243,000 during October, up 2,000 from September and up 9,100 over October of last year.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge Area's 15,800 production workers in all manufacturing was $484.83 in October, up $1.83 from September's revised estimate. Average weekly hours at 43.6 were up 1.6 hours, and average hourly earnings were down 38 cents. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,660 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 985 applicants in jobs during October.

The consumer price index for September, 1983 for all urban consumers was 301.8 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 300.8 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Sept. 1983	Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	94.6	94.6	99.3	0	- 4.7
MANUFACTURING	5.1	5.0	5.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.9	2.8	3.2	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.0	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	89.5	89.6	94.1	- 0.1	- 4.6
Mining	17.0	16.8	19.2	+ 0.2	- 2.2
Construction	6.1	6.1	6.7	0	- 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	7.7	7.5	7.8	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.7	23.8	24.6	- 0.1	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	7.6	7.6	7.7	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	16.1	16.2	16.9	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.8	2.9	0	- 0.1
Food Stores	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	9.5	9.6	10.2	- 0.1	- 0.7
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.5	0	+ 0.3
Services	20.0	20.4	21.1	- 0.4	- 1.1
Government	11.1	11.2	11.2	- 0.1	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during October amounted to 94,600 which was the same as the previous month but down 4,700 from a comparable period a year ago.

Nonmanufacturing employment was estimated at 89,500, a decrease of 100 from the previous month and a 4,600 decrease from the same period of time a year ago.

Manufacturing remained relatively stable with fluctuations of 100.

Mining stood at 17,000, an increase of 200 over the previous month but a decrease of 2,200 from a comparable period a year ago.

Construction remained the same as the previous month but decreased 600 from a year ago. Construction has remained high because of commercial construction but this is expected to slow down as residential construction did because of high interest rates and a decline in oil activity.

The unemployment rate for Lafayette is expected to undergo a slight decline in the upcoming months due to hiring for the holiday season.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Net Change From Sept. 1983	Net Change From Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	60.9	60.8	62.8	+ 0.1	- 1.9
MANUFACTURING	9.8	9.7	10.7	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Durable Goods	0.9	0.9	1.2	0	- 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.8	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	8.9	8.8	9.5	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	8.0	7.9	8.6	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	51.1	51.1	52.1	0	- 1.0
Mining	2.4	2.4	2.5	0	- 0.1
Construction	4.3	4.4	5.4	- 0.1	- 1.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.9	4.9	4.9	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	15.1	15.1	15.0	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	11.6	11.6	11.6	0	0
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.4	3.5	+ 0.1	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.1	3.1	3.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	11.1	11.1	10.7	0	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.2	10.1	10.6	+ 0.1	- 0.4

LAKE CHARLES
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment on area payrolls in October edged upward 100 over the mid-September level. This slight gain occurred in the manufacturing sector. Compared to a year ago, the current nonfarm employment estimate is down 1,900. Manufacturing and nonmanufacturing equally shared this loss.

Manufacturing employment rose 100 over the month ago total to the current estimate of 9,800. This falls 900 below the October, 1982 level.

Nonfactory employment remained unchanged from September. Government showed an increase of 100 workers but this was negated by a 100 loss in construction. The year ago nonfactory job total was 1,000 greater than the current estimate and this occurred chiefly in construction.

During the next 30 days, trade employment may begin climbing as area merchants prepare for the Christmas shopping season. Unemployment may dip slightly.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Net Change From Sept. 1983	Net Change From Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.3	50.9	51.5	- 0.6	- 1.2
MANUFACTURING	7.3	7.3	7.1	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.7	2.7	2.4	0	+ 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.3	0.3	0.2	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	2.4	2.4	2.2	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.6	4.7	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.0	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	43.0	43.6	44.4	- 0.6	- 1.4
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Construction	3.6	3.7	3.8	- 0.1	- 0.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.8	2.7	2.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.6	13.7	13.2	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	4.0	4.1	3.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	9.6	9.6	9.3	0	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.4	2.4	2.5	0	- 0.1
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	9.7	9.9	9.9	- 0.2	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.7	0.5	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.1	4.2	4.1	- 0.1	0
Government	8.7	9.0	10.3	- 0.3	- 1.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by an estimated 600 to 50,300 during mid-October.

Manufacturing was unchanged over the month.

Transportation and public utilities was the only segment showing an increase with a gain of 100. Government experienced the largest decline, 300, as the student programs were completed and new programs had not been fully implemented. Services had a loss of about 200, while construction was down by 100. Wholesale and retail trade showed a minimal loss of 100. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next 60 days, employment should rise slightly as the holiday season approaches. Unemployment is expected to decline slightly but remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Net Change From Sept. 1983	Net Change From Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	506.5	501.7	513.1	+ 4.8	- 6.6
MANUFACTURING	43.9	43.6	46.5	+ 0.3	- 2.6
Durable Goods	25.8	25.6	27.6	+ 0.2	- 1.8
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	3.6	3.6	3.6	0	0
Machinery	3.3	3.3	3.5	0	- 0.2
Transportation Equipment	14.4	14.2	15.3	+ 0.2	- 0.9
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	9.7	9.5	11.4	+ 0.2	- 1.7
Other Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	2.2	0	- 0.7
Nondurable Goods	18.1	18.0	18.9	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	7.5	7.5	7.9	0	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	2.3	2.2	2.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	462.6	458.1	466.6	+ 4.5	- 4.0
Mining	20.8	20.5	20.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Construction	31.9	31.1	31.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	47.2	47.5	50.1	- 0.3	- 2.9
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	16.7	16.8	18.3	- 0.1	- 1.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	128.5	127.6	129.8	+ 0.9	- 1.3
Wholesale Trade	33.3	33.5	36.3	- 0.2	- 3.0
Retail Trade	95.2	94.1	93.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.7
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	30.9	30.9	31.4	0	- 0.5
Services	123.7	123.5	123.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Government	79.6	77.0	79.9	+ 2.6	- 0.3
Federal	14.9	15.0	15.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
State	19.1	19.0	20.6	+ 0.1	- 1.5
Local	45.6	43.0	44.3	+ 2.6	+ 1.3

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$338.19	$358.68	$359.21	38.3	39.2	38.5	$8.83	$9.15	$9.33
Durable Goods	345.35	373.97	386.88	38.5	39.7	39.0	8.97	9.42	9.92
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	350.26	380.80	387.04	41.5	42.5	44.9	8.44	8.96	8.62
Fabricated Metal Products	378.59	465.09	400.75	36.9	41.9	37.7	10.26	11.10	10.63
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	351.66	353.96	364.26	38.1	38.6	39.0	9.23	9.17	9.34
Nondurable Goods	327.56	336.88	311.33	38.0	38.5	37.6	8.62	8.75	8.28
Food & Kindred Products	275.97	271.44	262.54	39.2	37.7	39.9	7.04	7.20	6.58
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	118.64	131.42	117.02	26.6	29.6	27.6	4.46	4.44	4.24
Paper & Allied Products	334.14	368.01	326.70	41.1	43.5	42.1	8.13	8.46	7.76
Printing & Publishing	354.76	341.36	300.29	44.4	42.3	38.4	7.99	8.07	7.82
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	479.48	572.80	568.86	34.2	40.0	35.8	14.02	14.32	15.89

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 27,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in October pushed up to 506,500, a level of 4,800 above September. Manufacturing was boosted mainly by hires by ship and boatbuilding and repairing. Nonmanufacturing registered significant increases in mining, construction, and retail trade along with a seasonal upturn in local government. Since October a year ago, nonagricultural wage and salary jobs are still down by 6,600.

Nonmanufacturing showed a substantial overall increase, with seasonal gains augmented by growth of a longer range nature. Local government reflected further call backs by the public schools as the autumn semester moved further along. Changes in other segments of government were minor. Retail trade was favored by the openings of stores in a large new shopping center and a new automobile agency elsewhere. Eating and drinking places moved up strongly. Less favorably, wholesale trade effected layoffs in both durable goods and nondurable goods. Construction exhibited healthy gains in most major segments, partly reflecting preparations for the 1984 World's Fair. In mining, the petroleum industry added workers for many kinds of activity. Services displayed a variety of changes. Private educational services moved up seasonally, and the hotel-motel industry and private health services showed sizeable upturns. Offsetting part of these increases were layoffs in amusement services following the closing of an outside recreation area. Finance, insurance, and real estate held steady. Less favorably, tranportation was lowered by decreases in water transportation and motor freight transportation.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months will probably show an overall gain. Retail trade will benefit from shopping for the holiday season and the openings of additional new stores in a large new shopping center. Services will be favored by the beginning of the Fair Grounds racing season. Preparations for the 1984 World's Fair are expected to boost construction strongly. Less favorably, mining will be hampered by winter weather conditions. Unemployment will likely show some decrease as employment increases.

Production workers in the New Orleans area earned an average $338.19 a week in October, $20.49 less than last month. Average hourly earnings dropped 32 cents an hour and average weekly hours decreased by 54 minutes. Compared to one year ago, factory workers earned an average $21.02 less a week.

Estimated unemployment in October moved down to 51,700, a level 3,800 below September. A significant upturn in nonagricultural wage and salary employment was mostly responsible. Current joblessness accounts for 9.9 percent of the labor force compared to 10.7 percent in September and 10.3 percent in October of last year. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totalled 13,106. About 43.0 percent of the claimants were non-white; approximately 30.0 percent were female.

Manufacturing employment totaled 43,900 in October, 300 higher than last month. The additional hiring at area shipyards was largely responsible for the increase. Small scattered gains were reported in apparel and other textile products. The other manufacturing industries held steady over the month. Manufacturing employment is down 1,800 compared to one year ago.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Oct. 1983*	Sept. 1983**	Oct. 1982**	Net Change From Sept. 1983	Net Change From Oct. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	149.9	149.5	150.2	+ 0.4	- 0.3
MANUFACTURING	24.1	24.3	25.1	- 0.2	- 1.0
Durable Goods	18.2	18.4	19.1	- 0.2	- 0.9
Lumber and Wood Products	1.6	1.6	1.4	0	+ 0.2
Metals and Machinery	10.6	10.8	13.5	- 0.2	- 2.9
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.8	3.7	4.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	6.8	7.1	9.5	- 0.3	- 2.7
Other Durable Goods	6.0	6.0	4.2	0	+ 1.8
Nondurable Goods	5.9	5.9	6.0	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.7	1.9	0	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	125.8	125.2	125.1	+ 0.6	+ 0.7
Mining	7.0	7.0	7.9	0	- 0.9
Construction	8.4	8.6	8.0	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	8.8	8.8	9.4	0	- 0.6
Wholesale and Retail Trade	35.0	34.6	34.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	8.4	8.3	9.1	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Retail Trade	26.6	26.3	25.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.2
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	7.9	8.0	7.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	31.7	31.8	31.7	- 0.1	0
Government	27.0	26.4	25.8	+ 0.6	+ 1.2

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**	Oct. '83*	Sept. '83**	Oct. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$358.66	$382.97	$326.04	38.4	39.4	39.0	$9.34	$9.72	$8.36
Lumber and Wood Products	237.80	239.98	203.46	39.7	40.4	37.4	5.99	5.94	5.44
Metals and Machinery	352.13	380.49	380.42	39.3	39.8	38.7	8.96	9.56	9.83
Food and Kindred Products	189.33	199.76	211.33	32.7	33.8	40.1	5.79	5.91	5.27
Printing and Publishing	226.29	210.82	255.26	28.9	29.2	35.7	7.83	7.22	7.15
Petroleum and Coal Products	501.16	523.27	506.57	44.0	45.7	47.7	11.39	11.45	10.63

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 18,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Shreveport SMSA has a nonagricultural wage and salary employment total of 149,900, up from 149,500 last month and remains slightly below the year ago total of 150,200. Employment in manufacturing dropped below the total for last month, while total nonmanufacturing employment increased from the revised September and the year ago estimates.

Manufacturing employment fell to 24,100, down from 24,300 last month, and remains below the October, 1982 estimate of 25,100. The decline from last month occurred in durable goods due to a reduced demand for communication equipment.

Total nonmanufacturing employment increased from 125,200 last month to 125,800. Most of this gain occurred in wholesale and retail trade and in government this gain was partially offset by slight losses in construction, finance, insurance & real estate, and services.

The average weekly earnings of 18,700 production workers were $358.66, down from $382.97 in September, and up from the October 1982 average of $326.04. The average weekly hours dropped from 39.4 last month to 38.4. AVerage hourly earnings decreased from $9.72 the previous month to $9.34, compared to $8.36 for October, 1982.

The current civilian labor force for the Shreveport SMSA is 171,200, comprised of 153,100 employed and 18,100 unemployed. The rate of unemployment is 10.6 percent, compared with 10.9 percent for the state and 8.8 percent for the national rate.

The outlook is for little change in this area. Employment will likely remain near or slightly above the present estimate, while unemployment is expected to continue the slow downward trend.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1983

	LOUISIANA			ALEXANDRIA AREA			BATON ROUGE AREA			LAFAYETTE AREA		
Industry	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHTIE
Mining (10-14)	5,854	5,022	832	281	245	36	78	70	8	728	635	93
Contractural Construction (15-17)	22,632	16,259	6,373	837	613	224	4,159	3,271	888	478	318	160
Manufacturing (20-29)	11,991	6,960	5,031	296	148	148	750	496	254	212	156	56
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	4,579	3,135	1,444	82	64	18	301	192	109	171	141	30
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	1,974	1,360	614	31	26	5	91	56	35	202	156	46
Retail Trade (52-59)	7,381	4,312	3,069	389	257	132	628	341	287	367	222	145
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	1,084	800	284	52	46	6	83	70	13	48	38	10
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	14,398	8,531	5,867	558	306	252	1,463	798	665	534	411	123
Public Administration (91-97)	1,740	796	944	125	56	69	206	87	119	28	16	12
All Others	2,830	1,828	1,002	93	75	18	300	204	96	115	90	25
Totals	74,463	49,003	25,460	2,744	1,836	908	8,059	5,585	2,474	2,883	2,183	700
Occupations												
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	9,138	7,145	1,993	296	203	93	1,184	901	283	526	477	49
Clerical and Sales	12,544	9,343	3,201	487	382	105	1,229	856	373	761	657	104
Services Occupations	6,273	2,165	4,108	345	121	224	557	177	380	216	74	142
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	504	214	290	20	10	10	20	8	12	8	5	3
Processing Occupations	2,386	1,121	1,265	101	29	72	231	160	71	23	13	10
Machine Trades	4,905	3,556	1,349	134	95	39	466	365	101	231	181	50
Benchwork Occupations	1,985	981	1,004	62	44	18	101	77	24	47	36	11
Structural Work Occupations	24,562	17,154	7,408	861	639	222	3,608	2,647	961	547	366	181
Miscellaneous Occupations	12,166	7,324	4,842	438	313	125	663	394	269	524	374	150
Totals	74,463	49,003	25,460	2,744	1,836	908	8,059	5,585	2,474	2,883	2,183	700

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1983

	LAKE CHARLES AREA			MONROE AREA			NEW ORLEANS AREA			SHREVEPORT AREA		
Industry	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHTIE
Mining (10-14)	254	225	29	116	112	4	415	321	94	575	505	70
Contractural Construction (15-17)	2,368	1,950	418	605	500	105	4,508	2,855	1,653	1,009	705	304
Manufacturing (20-29)	413	279	134	366	271	95	3,888	2,123	1,765	1,267	620	647
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	281	171	110	51	38	13	1,675	925	750	247	172	75
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	87	72	15	50	40	10	720	445	275	216	134	82
Retail Trade (52-59)	334	234	100	268	177	91	2,409	1,142	1,267	788	430	358
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	40	35	5	50	38	12	462	299	163	94	63	31
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	460	324	136	408	255	153	4,245	2,282	1,963	987	502	485
Public Administration (91-97)	56	32	24	44	20	24	425	164	261	162	78	84
All Others	242	196	46	90	51	39	656	342	314	129	83	46
Totals	4,535	3,518	1,017	2,048	1,502	546	19,403	10,898	8,505	5,474	3,292	2,182
Occupations												
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	284	238	46	298	247	51	2,923	2,167	756	631	501	130
Clerical and Sales	539	443	96	464	375	89	3,863	2,526	1,337	1,181	888	293
Services Occupations	219	110	109	161	48	113	2,100	551	1,549	595	130	465
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	10	7	3	7	5	2	76	32	44	37	11	26
Processing Occupations	271	159	112	26	9	17	488	203	285	129	39	90
Machine Trades	149	136	13	169	127	42	1,386	997	389	498	280	218
Benchwork Occupations	27	27	0	53	33	20	545	174	371	378	170	208
Structural Work Occupations	2,394	1,956	438	505	423	82	5,333	3,144	2,189	1,138	805	333
Miscellaneous Occupations	642	442	200	365	235	130	2,689	1,104	1,585	887	468	419
Totals	4,535	3,518	1,017	2,048	1,502	546	19,403	10,898	8,505	5,474	3,292	2,182

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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Ulysses Williams, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

November 1983

RELEASE DATE:
December 20, 1983

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY NOVEMBER 1983				REVISED OCTOBER 1983				REVISED NOVEMBER 1982			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,920.7	1,716.2	204.5	10.6	1,933.9	1,720.0	213.9	11.1	1,874.7	1,654.3	220.4	11.8
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	77.8	70.2	7.6	9.8	78.3	70.4	7.9	10.1	74.9	65.9	9.0	11.9
Baton Rouge 2/	244.7	223.3	21.4	8.8	243.5	220.9	22.6	9.3	234.0	210.4	23.6	10.1
Lafayette 3	102.6	94.9	7.7	7.5	103.2	95.0	8.2	8.0	102.1	95.4	6.7	6.6
Lake Charles 4/	76.9	65.4	11.5	14.9	77.4	65.9	11.5	14.9	75.4	63.7	11.7	15.5
Monroe 5/	58.2	52.1	6.1	10.5	58.3	51.9	6.4	11.0	58.5	51.2	7.3	12.4
New Orleans 6/	529.7	478.9	50.8	9.6	526.3	473.7	52.6	10.0	518.1	463.3	54.8	10.6
Shreveport 7/	168.2	151.0	17.2	10.2	169.5	151.3	18.2	10.7	164.8	145.1	19.7	12.0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during November stood at 1,597,400, an increase of 300 workers above October's level, but 11,800 below the comparable period a year ago. An increase in the state's nonmanufacturing employment was spearheaded by an upturn in retail trade employees. November payrolls in manufacturing were lower due largely to less business in the transportation equipment segment of durable goods and a seasonal decrease in food and kindred products employees.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing fell by 700 workers from October's level. Cutbacks in the manufacture of household furniture contributed to the slight downturn in furniture and fixtures employment. Less demand for glass and glassware and for concrete, gypsum and plaster products accounted for the decrease in stone, clay and glass products payrolls. Increased activity at iron and steel foundries, nonferrous foundries, and establishments that smelt and refine nonferrous metals resulted in higher primary metal industries employment. Slight upturns in coating and engraving services, in the production of fabricated structural metal products, and in the manufacture of certain ordance and accessories accounted for the increase in fabricated metal products employment. Machinery, except electrical, employment moved up from October's level due to an increase in the need for construction and related machinery. Transportation equipment employment was lower as a result of less activity at the state's shipyards.

Total nondurable goods employment for November, at 104,000, was down by 600 from the October level and 4,000 below the November a year ago figure. A seasonal decrease in the production of fats and oils was a large factor in the drop of employment in the food and kindred products industry. Apparel and other textile products employment edged downward for the current month as payroll cutbacks occurred in men's and boy's furnishings, women's and misses' outerwear, and miscellaneous fabricated textile products. Increased production of certain miscellaneous converted paper products was instrumental in the higher employment level for paper and allied products. Falling demand for industrial inorganic and industrial organic chemicals accounted for the drop in chemicals and allied products payrolls.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,404,300, was 1,600 above last month's level of 1,402,700, but a drop of 2,400 workers from November a year ago. Mining employment was up as a result of an increase in the exploration for oil and gas. A downturn in general building construction and in heavy construction contributed most to the lower construction payrolls in November. A labor dispute at a firm in the local and interurban passenger transit segment of the state's transportation and public utilities industry was a primary factor in the decrease of employees in that industry. Trade employment moved up due to increased hiring at department stores and specialty shops for the holiday season. A seasonal downturn at one of the state's racetracks contributed to the decline in services payrolls for the current month. Payroll additions in state and local government were responsible for the upturn in government employment during November.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 136,500 production workers in manufacturing increased from $392.75 in October to $394.30 in November, an increase of $1.55 but a drop of $5.10 from the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings, at $9.76, was one cent below last month's level but $0.45 cents above the same time last year. Weekly hours averaged 40.4 during November, an increase of 0.2 hours from the October figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for November amounted to 204,500, a decrease of 9,400 from the October level of 213,900. The unemployment rate for November was 10.6 percent compared to 11.1 percent last month and 11.8 percent in November of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for November was 8.1 percent compared to 8.4 percent in October and 10.4 percent in November a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,933,900 in October to 1,920,700 in November, a decrease of 13,200. Total employment for Louisiana went from 1,720,000 in October to 1,716,200 in November, a decrease of 3,800, but an increase of 61,900 above November of last year.

Louisiana's unemployment rate should be lower next month. The estimated nonagricultural wage and salary employment is expected to be influenced by seasonal changes. Retail trade should move up in December as shopping for the holiday season reaches its peak. Winter weather may result in lower construction and mining employment. Cutbacks will probably occur in certain manufacturing industries.

LOUISIANA

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change from	
	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Oct. 1983	Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,597.4	1,597.1	1,609.2	+ 0.3	- 11.8
MINING AND QUARRYING	91.5	91.3	94.9	+ 0.2	- 3.4
Oil and Gas Extraction	88.2	87.9	91.5	+ 0.3	- 3.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.3	3.4	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	115.3	116.4	120.7	- 1.1	- 5.4
MANUFACTURING	193.1	194.4	202.5	- 1.3	- 9.4
Durable Goods	89.1	89.8	94.5	- 0.7	- 5.4
Lumber and Wood Products	13.5	13.5	12.9	0	+ 0.6
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.8	0.7	- 0.1	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.9	8.0	7.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.4	4.4	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Fabricated Metal Products	16.3	16.2	16.8	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Machinery, Except Electrical	12.0	11.9	13.5	+ 0.1	- 1.5
Electric & Electronic Equipment	8.2	8.2	9.7	0	- 1.5
Transportation Equipment	24.8	25.6	26.4	- 0.8	- 1.6
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	104.0	104.6	108.0	- 0.6	- 4.0
Food & Kindred Products	26.7	27.1	27.8	- 0.4	- 1.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.4	8.5	8.4	- 0.1	0
Paper & Allied Products	11.9	11.8	12.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	9.9	9.9	9.8	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	30.3	30.5	32.7	- 0.2	- 2.4
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.7	12.7	13.2	0	- 0.5
Petroleum Refining	12.1	12.1	12.4	0	- 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	123.9	124.1	127.6	- 0.2	- 3.7
Railroad Transportation	7.9	7.9	8.3	0	- 0.4
Transportation, ex. Railroads	75.9	76.1	77.0	- 0.2	- 1.1
Communications & Public Utilities	40.1	40.1	42.3	0	- 2.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	370.5	368.1	369.8	+ 2.4	+ 0.7
Wholesale Trade	99.5	99.6	101.3	- 0.1	- 1.8
Retail Trade	271.0	268.5	268.5	+ 2.5	+ 2.5
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	61.5	59.3	60.5	+ 2.2	+ 1.0
Food Stores	47.3	47.3	48.1	0	- 0.8
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.9	30.9	30.5	0	+ 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	81.6	81.8	79.1	- 0.2	+ 2.5
Other Retail Trade	49.7	49.2	50.3	+ 0.5	- 0.6
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	80.1	80.1	79.4	0	+ 0.7
Banking	25.9	26.0	26.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
SERVICES	307.8	308.1	303.5	- 0.3	+ 4.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.5	21.4	21.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Other Services	286.3	286.7	282.4	- 0.4	+ 3.9
GOVERNMENT	315.2	314.6	310.8	+ 0.6	+ 4.4
Federal	34.0	34.0	33.6	0	+ 0.4
State and Local	281.2	280.6	277.2	+ 0.6	+ 4.0
State	103.1	102.7	102.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.8
Local	178.1	177.9	174.9	+ 0.2	+ 3.2

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. '83*	Oct. '83**	Nov. '82**	Nov. '83*	Oct. '83**	Nov. '82**	Nov. '83*	Oct. '83**	Nov. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$394.30	$392.75	$399.40	40.4	40.2	42.9	$9.76	$9.77	$9.31
Durable Goods	353.70	349.05	381.65	39.3	39.0	42.5	9.00	8.95	8.98
Lumber & Wood Products	267.63	278.71	262.28	38.9	39.2	39.8	6.88	7.11	6.59
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	352.67	352.90	382.35	41.2	43.3	43.4	8.56	8.15	8.81
Fabricated Metal Products	361.56	361.77	422.14	39.3	38.9	43.7	9.20	9.30	9.66
Machinery, ex. Electrical	342.91	329.73	406.85	38.4	36.8	41.6	8.93	8.96	9.78
Electric & Electronic Equip.	395.41	375.36	360.91	39.9	39.1	37.4	9.91	9.60	9.65
Transportation Equipment	397.55	392.21	388.08	39.4	39.3	42.0	10.09	9.98	9.24
Nondurable Goods	434.92	435.94	416.02	41.5	41.4	43.2	10.48	10.53	9.63
Food & Kindred Products	270.60	255.71	245.92	41.0	39.1	42.4	6.60	6.54	5.80
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	161.42	172.79	156.16	34.2	37.0	36.4	4.72	4.67	4.29
Paper & Allied Products	556.70	532.07	502.04	43.8	42.6	44.0	12.71	12.49	11.41
Printing & Publishing	329.35	349.84	303.40	37.9	39.8	37.0	8.69	8.79	8.20
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	610.14	620.86	580.73	42.4	42.7	41.9	14.39	14.54	13.86
Petroleum & Coal Products	616.82	646.78	611.25	46.8	46.8	48.9	13.18	13.82	12.50
Petroleum Refining	630.40	664.10	630.94	46.8	46.9	49.1	13.47	14.16	12.85
MINING	520.60	512.59	444.64	47.5	47.2	41.4	10.96	10.86	10.74
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	500.99	484.15	455.36	42.1	42.1	39.7	11.90	11.50	11.47
BANKING	220.71	223.88	220.61	37.6	38.8	38.3	5.87	5.77	5.76

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 136,500 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 113,000 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY NOVEMBER 1983				REVISED OCTOBER 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	24,525	21,275	3,250	13.3	25,300	21,900	3,400	13.4
Oakdale (Allen)	6,275	4,875	1,400	22.4	6,425	4,975	1,450	22.5
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,775	9,325	1,450	13.4	11,400	9,850	1,550	13.6
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,375	9,875	1,500	13.1	11,350	9,850	1,500	13.2
Arcadia (Bienville)	6,850	6,150	700	10.2	6,850	6,125	725	10.7
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,575	4,025	550	12.0	4,700	4,125	575	12.3
Cameron (Cameron)	4,825	4,350	475	9.9	5,100	4,625	475	9.3
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,675	6,050	625	9.5	6,950	6,300	650	9.3
Homer (Claiborne)	7,300	6,675	625	8.6	7,400	6,725	675	9.2
Ferriday (Concordia)	8,850	7,825	1,025	11.7	9,075	7,950	1,125	12.4
Mansfield (DeSoto)	10,700	9,625	1,075	10.1	10,825	9,700	1,125	10.5
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,300	3,700	600	14.0	4,700	4,125	575	12.5
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,750	7,000	750	9.5	7,800	7,075	725	9.4
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,025	11,950	2,075	14.8	14,425	12,250	2,175	15.1
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,125	7,750	1,375	15.1	9,625	8,200	1,425	14.9
New Iberia (Iberia)	39,850	34,800	5,050	12.6	40,275	34,975	5,300	13.1
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,275	13,575	1,700	11.1	15,800	13,925	1,875	11.9
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,350	5,775	575	9.0	6,325	5,725	600	9.3
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,850	11,600	2,250	16.3	14,475	12,075	2,400	16.6
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	40,925	36,650	4,275	10.4	41,800	37,125	4,675	11.2
Jena (LaSalle)	5,825	5,250	575	9.9	5,825	5,225	600	10.4
Ruston (Lincoln)	20,800	19,675	1,125	5.4	20,975	19,750	1,225	5.8
Tallulah (Madison)	4,775	4,250	525	11.2	5,075	4,575	500	10.0
Bastrop (Morehouse)	12,550	11,100	1,450	11.6	12,900	11,425	1,475	11.4
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	16,425	14,925	1,500	9.1	16,600	15,075	1,525	9.1
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,850	13,725	1,125	7.5	14,950	13,825	1,125	7.5
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,350	10,950	1,400	11.4	12,900	11,350	1,550	11.9
Coushatta (Red River)	3,900	3,525	375	9.3	4,050	3,650	400	9.7
Rayville (Richland)	7,525	6,550	975	12.9	7,775	6,800	975	12.5
Many (Sabine)	7,750	6,950	800	10.2	7,750	6,900	850	11.0
Norco (St. Charles)	24,125	21,900	2,225	9.2	24,425	22,100	2,325	9.6
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,050	3,625	425	10.4	4,125	3,700	425	10.3
Lutcher (St. James)	8,225	7,100	1,125	13.7	8,525	7,325	1,200	14.0
Reserve (St. John)	17,750	15,525	2,225	12.5	17,850	15,525	2,325	13.0
Opelousas (St. Landry)	35,450	29,275	6,175	17.4	36,275	29,900	6,375	17.6
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	19,700	17,000	2,700	13.7	20,150	17,225	2,925	14.5
Morgan City (St. Mary)	35,275	30,200	5,075	14.4	36,075	30,600	5,475	15.1
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	33,725	28,250	5,475	16.2	34,750	29,025	5,725	16.5
St. Joseph (Tensas)	2,875	2,550	325	11.1	3,200	2,875	325	9.9
Houma (Terrebonne)	49,300	43,625	5,675	11.5	50,200	43,875	6,325	12.6
Farmerville (Union)	7,225	6,375	850	11.7	7,300	6,450	850	11.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,050	22,025	3,025	12.0	25,775	22,625	3,150	12.2
Leesville (Vernon)	11,500	9,875	1,625	14.2	11,425	9,800	1,625	14.2
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,500	12,150	2,350	16.2	14,700	12,300	2,400	16.4
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,075	3,375	700	17.5	4,350	3,625	725	16.8
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,225	2,950	275	8.6	3,275	2,975	300	8.9
Winnfield (Winn)	5,625	4,850	775	13.6	5,600	4,800	800	14.3

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Net Change From Oct. 1983	Net Change From Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	55.6	55.4	54.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.9
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.8	5.6	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.6	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.8	49.6	49.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Construction	3.7	3.7	3.5	0	+ 0.2
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.4	2.4	2.5	0	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.7	12.5	12.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.9	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	9.9	9.7	9.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.0	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.2	4.1	4.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Services & Mining	11.9	11.9	11.6	0	+ 0.3
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.6	6.5	0	+ 0.1
Government	16.1	16.1	16.0	0	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.9	5.9	5.8	0	+ 0.1
Local	7.4	7.4	7.4	0	0

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area increased in November to 55,600. This was a gain of 200 over the previous month and an increase of 900 from this month a year ago. This months gains were in nonmanufacturing.

Manufacturing employment, unchanged since the previous month, has increased 200 from this month a year ago. The gain was in nondurable goods with a slight gain in food and kindred products and other nondurable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing is up 200 since last month and is estimated at 49,800. The increases were in retail trade with a slight increase in general merchandise and other retail trade. Compared to this month a year ago, nonmanufacturing employment has increased 700, with increases in each major segment except finance, insurance and real estate.

During the next thirty days total employment should decrease. The unemployment rate should increase as adverse weather conditions will hamper outdoor related employment.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Net Change From Oct. 1983	 Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	212.3	211.2	209.2	+ 1.1	+ 3.1
MANUFACTURING	24.5	24.4	25.3	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Durable Goods	4.7	4.6	4.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.8	2.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	19.8	19.8	20.5	0	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	2.8	2.8	2.4	0	+ 0.4
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.8	13.8	14.9	0	- 1.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	187.8	186.8	183.9	+ 1.0	+ 3.9
Mining	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Construction	22.0	21.8	21.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.1	10.2	10.6	- 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	49.5	49.0	47.4	+ 0.5	+ 2.1
Wholesale Trade	11.7	11.7	11.5	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	37.8	37.3	35.9	+ 0.5	+ 1.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	11.9	12.0	11.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	38.7	38.2	37.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.4
Government	54.1	54.1	53.7	0	+ 0.4

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings Nov. '83*	 Oct. '83**	 Nov. '82**	Average Weekly Hours Nov. '83*	 Oct. '83**	 Nov. '82**	Average Hourly Earnings Nov. '83*	 Oct. '83**	 Nov. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$468.84	$484.50	$480.63	42.2	42.8	43.3	$11.11	$11.32	$11.10
Petro-Chemicals	609,45	640.20	588.26	42.5	44.0	43.9	14.34	14.55	13.40

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 15,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 212,300 during November, up 1,100 from October's revised estimate of 211,200 and up 3,100 over the total for last November. Manufacturing employment increased 100 and nonmanufacturing was up 1,000 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing totaled 24,500 in November, up 100 from the October revised estimate to 24,400. Durable goods at 4,700, increased 100 during the current period due in part to a return to normal operations of a plant in the iron and steel foundries after a partial temporary shutdown. Nondurable goods at 19,800 for November had no change.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 187,800 was up 1,000 during November and up 3,900 over November of last year. Employment in mining industries remained stable during the current period. Increased activity in heavy construction and in highway and street construction helped the rise in construction employment this month. An employment drop in transportation, and public utilities resulted from less activity in trucking, local and long distance, and in services incidental to water transportation. Employment in trade industries increased due to continued seasonal gains in department stores and in eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance, and real estate employment was down due to employment reductions in all three groups. More business in hotels, motels, and tourists courts, photographic studios and more activity in hospitals accounted for most of the increased employment in the services industries. Government employment remained stable during the current period.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 223,300 during November, up 2,400 over October's revised estimate of 220,900. Unemployment totaled 21,400 in November, down 1,200 from last month's revised estimate and down 2,200 from November of last year. November's unemployment rate at 8.8 percent is down from last month's revised 9.3 percent. The local civilian labor force totaled 244,700 during November, up 1,200 from October's total.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 15,700 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $468.84 in November, down $15.66 from October's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 0.6 hours, and average hourly earnings were down $0.21. Less overtime worked produced these reductions.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 1,940 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 723 applicants in jobs during November.

The consumer price index for October, 1983 for all urban consumers was 302.6 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 301.3 using base period 1967=100.

Employment expected to continue upward while unemployment declines during the coming months.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Net Change From Oct. 1983	Net Change From Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	95.6	94.5	99.6	+ 1.0	- 4.0
MANUFACTURING	5.1	5.1	5.2	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.2	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.0	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	90.5	89.4	94.4	+ 1.0	- 3.9
Mining	17.1	17.0	19.4	+ 0.1	- 2.3
Construction	6.1	6.1	6.7	0	- 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	7.8	7.7	7.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.3	23.7	24.7	+ 0.6	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	7.7	7.6	7.7	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	16.6	16.1	17.0	+ 0.5	- 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.3	2.8	3.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.3
Food Stores	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	9.5	9.5	10.2	0	- 0.7
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.6	0	+ 0.2
Services	20.1	20.0	21.0	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Government	11.3	11.1	11.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during November stood at 95,600, an increase of 1,000 over the previous month and a decrease of 4,000 below the comparable month a year ago.

Manufacturing remained at the same level while nonmanfacturing was responsible for the 1,000 increase. The bulk of the increase was in wholesale and retail trade. This increase was due to the hiring for the holiday season.

Mining stood at 17,100 which was an increase of 100 over the previous month but a decrease of 2,300 from the same period of time a year ago.

Construction has remained relatively stable but is expected to decrease in the coming months because of the weather and the slowdown in commercial construction.

The other segments of employment have remained stable and shown little increase or decrease.

The unemployment rate in Lafayette will remain about the same for the next month but will probably increase after the first of the year due to adverse weather conditions and the end of the holiday season.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Net Change From Oct. 1983	Net Change From Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	60.2	61.0	62.2	- 0.8	- 2.0
MANUFACTURING	9.7	9.8	10.6	- 0.1	- 0.9
Durable Goods	0.9	0.9	1.2	0	- 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.8	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	8.8	8.9	9.4	- 0.1	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet Products	7.9	8.0	8.6	- 0.1	- 0.7
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	50.5	51.2	51.6	- 0.7	- 1.1
Mining	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Construction	3.8	4.4	5.3	- 0.6	- 1.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.9	4.9	4.5	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	15.1	15.1	15.1	0	0
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	11.6	11.6	11.7	0	- 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.6	2.5	2.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.1	3.1	2.9	0	+ 0.2
Services	11.0	11.1	10.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.2	10.2	10.7	0	- 0.5

LAKE CHARLES
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonfarm payroll employment fell 800 below the October level in November. Most of the loss occurred in nonmanufacturing industries. Over-the-year losses, equally shared by manufacturing and nonmanufacturing establishments, totaled 2,000.

Manufacturing employment dropped 100 below the mid-October total. All of the loss was centered in Petroleum and Chemical producers. The current manufacturing employment estimate falls 900 below the November 1982 level. The greater portion of this decline occurred in Nondurable Goods producers.

Nonfactory employment, currently estimated at 50,500 fell 700 below the October level due to losses in Construction and Services. The current estimate shows a decline of 1,100 during the twelve months from November 1982. A 1,500 job loss in Construction was offset by gains in Transportation and Public Utilities, Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, and Services.

The outlook is for a small increase in Trade employment during the December pre-Christmas shopping period and a possible increase in unemployment as inclement weather curtails outdoor employment activity.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Net Change From Oct. 1983	Net Change From Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.4	50.5	51.4	- 0.1	- 1.0
MANUFACTURING	7.4	7.4	7.1	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.7	2.7	2.4	0	+ 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.3	0.2	- 0.1	0
Other Durable Goods	2.5	2.4	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	4.7	4.7	4.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	43.0	43.1	44.3	- 0.1	- 1.3
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Construction	3.5	3.6	3.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.7	13.6	13.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	4.0	4.0	4.0	0	0
Retail Trade	9.7	9.6	9.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.6	2.5	2.6	+ 0.1	0
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.8	2.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.9	4.0	3.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	9.7	9.7	9.7	0	0
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.2	4.1	4.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	8.8	8.8	10.4	0	- 1.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by an estimated 100 workers during mid-November to an estimated 50,400.

Manufacturing was unchanged with only minimal movement in durable goods.

Construction was down by 100 as was finance, insurance and real estate. The only gain was in wholesale and retail trade as retail stores started gearing up for the holiday season. All other segments were unchanged.

Employment is expected to remain relatively steady until after the holiday season. Unemployment is expected to remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Net Change From Oct. 1983	Net Change From Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	508.2	506.7	513.7	+ 1.5	- 5.5
MANUFACTURING	43.5	43.9	46.7	- 0.4	- 3.2
Durable Goods	25.4	25.8	27.8	- 0.4	- 2.4
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.5	2.6	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
Machinery	3.4	3.4	3.4	0	0
Transportation Equipment	14.0	14.4	15.5	- 0.4	- 1.5
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	9.3	9.7	11.6	- 0.4	- 2.3
Other Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	2.2	0	- 0.7
Nondurable Goods	18.1	18.1	18.9	0	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	7.5	7.5	8.0	0	- 0.5
Apparel & Other Textile Products	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	464.7	462.8	467.0	+ 1.9	- 2.3
Mining	20.7	20.6	20.7	+ 0.1	0
Construction	32.2	31.9	31.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.8
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	47.7	47.5	50.0	+ 0.2	- 2.3
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	17.4	17.1	18.0	+ 0.3	- 0.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	129.3	128.1	129.3	+ 1.2	0
Wholesale Trade	32.8	33.1	35.7	- 0.3	- 2.9
Retail Trade	96.5	95.0	93.6	+ 1.5	+ 2.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	30.9	30.8	31.2	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Services	124.0	124.0	124.5	0	- 0.5
Government	79.9	79.9	79.9	0	0
Federal	14.8	14.9	15.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
State	19.3	19.3	20.5	0	- 1.2
Local	45.8	45.7	44.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.5

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings Nov. '83*	Average Weekly Earnings Oct. '83**	Average Weekly Earnings Nov. '82**	Average Weekly Hours Nov. '83*	Average Weekly Hours Oct. '83**	Average Weekly Hours Nov. '82**	Average Hourly Earnings Nov. '83*	Average Hourly Earnings Oct. '83**	Average Hourly Earnings Nov. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$347.91	$352.30	$369.74	38.7	38.8	39.8	$8.99	$9.08	$9.29
Durable Goods	368.40	365.66	402.93	40.0	38.9	40.7	9.21	9.40	9.90
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	357.20	350.26	376.14	40.0	41.5	44.2	8.93	8.44	8.51
Fabricated Metal Products	402.27	402.48	396.39	39.4	38.7	36.2	10.21	10.40	10.95
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	350.43	355.12	386.05	37.6	37.9	41.6	9.32	9.37	9.28
Nondurable Goods	316.35	330.72	313.29	36.7	38.5	38.3	8.62	8.59	8.18
Food & Kindred Products	270.11	278.00	272.96	36.7	39.1	40.2	7.36	7.11	6.79
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	121.76	128.74	116.75	27.3	28.8	26.9	4.46	4.47	4.34
Paper & Allied Products	358.99	334.97	341.78	43.2	41.1	43.1	8.31	8.15	7.93
Printing & Publishing	298.38	351.71	313.23	38.7	43.8	39.8	7.71	8.03	7.87
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	515.86	540.48	547.47	37.3	38.8	39.5	13.83	13.93	13.86

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 28,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in November increased to 508,200, up 1,500 from October. The gain was mostly in nonmanufacturing in retail trade and was mainly seasonal in nature. Manufacturing was lowered by layoffs by ship and boatbuilding and repairing.

Manufacturing employment totaled 43,500 in November, 400 less than last month. The loss was in ship and boatbuilding and repairing. All other manufacturing industries held steady over the month. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 3,200.

Nonmanufacturing changes were highlighted by gains in retail trade. Seasonal upturns were augmented by the opening of new stores and restaurants. Less favorably, wholesale trade continued to show an overall downtrend. Construction pushed up, reflecting a great variety of work involved in preparations for the 1984 World's Fair. Water transportation pulled back up from the reduced level of the past three months. Intercity highway passenger transportation was lowered by a labor dispute. Mining eked out a small gain. Finance and insurance showed mild upturns. In services, a variety of small decreases in some industries, offset slight increases in others. Government changes were minor.

Average weekly earnings were $347.91 for New Orleans area factory workers in November. This was $4.39 less than last month's average and $21.83 less than the average one year ago. The decrease was mainly due to the drop in average hourly earnings of nine cents. Average weekly hours decreased by only six minutes.

Estimated unemployment in November decreased to 50,800, down 1,800 from October. Seasonal upturns in employment were mostly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 9.6 percent of the labor force compared to 10.0 percent in October and 10.6 percent in November of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 13,139. Approximately 43.0 percent of the claimants were non-white; about 29.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show changes typically seasonal in nature. Retail trade will push up strongly in December as shopping for the holiday season nears its peak and then adjust downward in January. Services will be boosted by the opening of the Fair Grounds racing season. Construction will probably show some overall increase as preparations for the 1984 World's Fair gain momentum. Mining will be hampered by winter weather conditions. Unemployment is predicted to move down in December and then back up again in January.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Nov. 1983*	Oct. 1983**	Nov. 1982**	Net Change From Oct. 1983	Net Change From Nov. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	147.0	148.0	147.8	- 1.0	- 0.8
MANUFACTURING	24.2	24.2	24.6	0	- 0.4
Durable Goods	18.4	18.3	18.6	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	1.6	1.6	1.3	0	+ 0.3
Metals and Machinery	10.7	10.7	13.1	0	- 2.4
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.9	0	0
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	6.8	6.8	9.2	0	- 2.4
Other Durable Goods	6.1	6.0	4.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.9
Nondurable Good	5.8	5.9	6.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.7	1.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	122.8	123.8	123.2	- 1.0	- 0.4
Mining	7.2	7.2	7.7	0	- 0.5
Construction	7.9	8.4	7.7	- 0.5	+ 0.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	8.6	8.8	9.2	- 0.2	- 0.6
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.5	34.0	34.7	+ 0.5	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	8.5	8.4	9.0	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Retail Trade	26.0	25.6	25.7	+ 0.4	+ 0.3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	7.9	7.9	7.6	0	+ 0.3
Services	30.6	31.5	30.6	- 0.9	0
Government	26.1	26.0	25.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.4

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. '83*	Oct. '83**	Nov. '82**	Nov. '83*	Oct. '83**	Nov. '82**	Nov. '83*	Oct. '83**	Nov. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$397.37	$367.77	$331.18	39.6	39.0	39.1	$9.58	$9.43	$8.47
Lumber and Wood Products	218.67	237.80	227.77	37.0	39.7	40.6	5.91	5.99	5.61
Metals and Machinery	374.22	360.51	390.44	40.5	39.4	39.8	9.24	9.15	9.81
Food and Kindred Products	191.91	189.33	199.07	32.2	32.7	34.5	5.96	5.79	5.77
Printing and Publishing	230.04	226.29	234.24	28.9	28.9	32.0	7.96	7.83	7.32
Petroleum and Coal Products	521.86	501.16	519.83	45.3	44.0	47.3	11.52	11.39	10.99

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 18,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport Area is 147,000, down from the revised October estimate of 148,000 and the year ago estimate of 147,800. Total employment in manufacturing is unchanged from last month, while employment in nonmanufacturing shows a decline from the previous month.

Employment in manufacturing is 24,200, unchanged from the revised October estimate, but 400 less than November, 1982.

Total nonmanufacturing employment decreased from the revised October estimate of 123,800 to 122,800. The ending of the racing season caused the most significant deline in services employment. Employment in construction fell 500 and was offset with an employment increase of 500 in wholesale and retail trade.

The average weekly earnings of 18,400 production workers were $379.37, an increase from $367.77 last month and $331.18 one year ago. Average weekly hours increased from 39.0 to 39.6 during the past month. The average hourly earnings rose from $9.43 the previous month to $9.58.

The civilian labor force in the Shreveport Area is 168,200, including 151,000 employed and 17,200 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 10.2 percent, compared with 10.6 percent statewide and a national rate of 8.4 percent.

Employment and unemployment in this area will be influenced by normal seasonal patterns. In addition to adverse weather conditions, construction activities will be slowed by building material shortages and high interest rates. Employment in trade will reach a peak in December before declining at the end of the Christmas buying period.

2/7/84 S 3320-2 A

LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Ulysses Williams, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

DECEMBER 1983

RELEASE DATE:
January 20, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY DECEMBER 1983				REVISED NOVEMBER 1983				REVISED DECEMBER 1982			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,899.0	1,707.9	191.1	10.1	1,924.9	1,716.0	208.9	10.9	1,855.0	1,639.6	215.4	11.6
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	76.7	69.1	7.6	9.9	77.9	70.2	7.7	9.9	74.1	65.0	9.1	12.3
Baton Rouge 2/	243.6	223.9	19.7	8.1	244.9	222.9	22.0	9.0	232.5	210.1	22.4	9.6
Lafayette 3/	102.8	96.0	6.8	6.6	103.3	95.5	7.8	7.6	101.2	94.8	6.4	6.3
Lake Charles 4/	75.4	64.6	10.8	14.3	77.0	65.4	11.6	15.1	74.3	63.4	10.9	14.7
Monroe 5/	58.2	52.5	5.7	9.9	58.4	52.3	6.1	10.6	58.3	51.3	7.0	12.0
New Orleans 6/	525.9	478.9	47.0	8.9	530.5	478.4	52.1	9.8	513.4	462.0	51.4	10.0
Shreveport 7/	167.2	151.0	16.2	9.7	168.8	151.1	17.7	10.5	163.2	142.9	20.3	12.5

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during December stood at 1,594,800, a decrease of 2,300 workers from last month's figure and 12,300 fewer than December of last year. The increase in nonmanufacturing payrolls was led by trade due to seasonal adjustments in retail trade establishments as the holiday season reached a peak. In durable goods, decreases in transportation equipment payrolls and in nondurable goods, the seasonal decline in food and kindred products were both significant in the downturn of Louisiana's manufacturing employment.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, estimated at 88,300 for December, was 800 lower than the November level of 89,100 and 4,200 below the year ago figure. A drop in the production of household furniture was primarily responsible for the decrease in furniture and fixtures employment. Stone, clay and glass products employment was lower due to lessened demand for concrete, gypsum and plaster products and for certain miscellaneous nonmetallic mineral products. Fabricated metal products payrolls were up as a result of increased demand for fabricated structural metal products and certain miscellaneous fabricated metal products. Increased production of construction and related machinery and miscellaneous machinery, except electrical, accounted for the upturn in machinery, except electrical, employment. Transportation equipment payrolls were significantly lower in December due to decreased activity in the ship and boat building and repairing segment.

Estimated employment in nondurable goods for December was 1,900 lower than in the prior month. Most of the decrease was due to a seasonal decline in the fruit and vegetable canning industry. More business for paper mills, except building paper, and for establishments manufacturing miscellaneous converted paper products moved employment up slightly in paper and allied products. Less business throughout the chemicals and allied products industry, especially industrial organic chemicals, resulted in lower employment levels in this segment. Petroleum and coal products employment was down from last month due to a slowdown in petroleum refining activity. Other nondurable goods payrolls were cut from November's level as textile mills products experienced decreased activity.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during December was 1,404,500, up by 400 from the November figure. Mining employment was higher this month as a result of increased production of crude petroleum and natural gas. A downturn in general building construction and heavy construction accounted for the decrease in construction payrolls. Transportation and public utilities suffered a decrease in employment level largely due to a slowdown in business for the state's ports and cutbacks in the communication industry. Following the pattern of previous years, trade employment rose as a result of increased hiring at general merchandise, apparel and accessories stores for the holiday season. An increase in banking payrolls was instrumental in the higher level of employment exhibited by the finance, insurance and real estate segment of nonmanufacturing. Less business at hotels and other lodging places contributed to the drop in services employment for the current month. A reduction in the number of part time workers in state education was a prime factor in the December decrease of government employment.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 134,500 production workers in manufacturing increased from $383.72 in November to $394.18 in December, an increase of $10.46, but a decrease of $7.20 from the December a year ago level. Average hourly earnings were $0.14 higher in December than last month and $0.43 more than December of last year. Weekly hours averaged 40.1 for the current month, up by 0.5 hours from 39.6 hours in November.

Total unemployment in Louisiana, estimated at 191,100 for December, was down by 17,800 from November's level of 208,900 and 24,300 lower than December of last year. The unemployment rate for December was 10.1 percent, a decrease of 0.8 percentage points below November's rate and 1.5 percentage points below December a year ago. The comparable national unemployment rate for December was 8.0 percent compared to 8.1 percent in November and 10.5 percent in December of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force decreased from 1,924,900 in November to 1,899,000 in December, a loss of 25,900. Total employment, at 1,707,900, was 8,100 lower than last month but 68,300 higher than December a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to increase over the next 30 to 60 day period. Retail trade will probably ajust downward as a result of the close of the holiday season. Construction and mining will likely suffer from the effects of severe winter weather.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change from	
	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,594.8	1,597.1	1,607.1	- 2.3	-12.3
MINING AND QUARRYING	92.2	91.6	95.2	+ 0.6	- 3.0
Oil and Gas Extraction	88.9	88.3	91.8	+ 0.6	- 2.9
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.3	3.3	3.4	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	113.5	115.0	118.9	- 1.5	- 5.4
MANUFACTURING	190.3	193.0	199.0	- 2.7	- 8.7
Durable Goods	88.3	89.1	92.5	- 0.8	- 4.2
Lumber and Wood Products	13.5	13.5	12.8	0	+ 0.7
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.8	0.7	- 0.1	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.7	7.9	7.8	- 0.2	- 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.4	4.5	0	- 1.1
Fabricated Metal Products	16.4	16.3	16.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	12.0	11.9	13.4	+ 0.1	- 1.4
Electric & Electronic Equipment	8.2	8.2	8.4	0	- 0.2
Transportation Equipment	24.2	24.9	26.3	- 0.7	- 2.1
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	102.0	103.9	106.5	- 1.9	- 4.5
Food & Kindred Products	25.2	26.7	26.6	- 1.5	- 1.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.4	8.4	8.4	0	0
Paper & Allied Products	12.0	11.9	12.0	+ 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.8	0	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	30.1	30.3	32.5	- 0.2	- 2.4
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.5	12.7	13.1	- 0.2	- 0.6
Petroleum Refining	11.8	12.0	12.3	- 0.2	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	4.1	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	122.0	123.9	127.1	- 1.9	- 5.1
Railroad Transportation	8.0	8.0	8.2	0	- 0.2
Transportation, ex. Railroads	74.9	75.9	76.9	- 1.0	- 2.0
Communications & Public Utilities	39.1	40.0	42.0	- 0.9	- 2.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	374.6	370.9	372.2	+ 3.7	+ 2.4
Wholesale Trade	100.1	99.6	101.0	+ 0.5	- 0.9
Retail Trade	274.5	271.3	271.2	+ 3.2	+ 3.3
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	64.9	61.5	63.4	+ 3.4	+ 1.5
Food Stores	46.6	47.3	47.9	- 0.7	- 1.3
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.0	31.0	30.5	0	+ 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	81.8	81.9	78.8	- 0.1	+ 3.0
Other Retail Trade	50.2	49.6	50.6	+ 0.6	- 0.4
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	80.3	80.1	79.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
Banking	26.1	25.9	26.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
SERVICES	307.1	307.3	304.9	- 0.2	+ 2.2
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.3	21.5	20.9	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Other Services	285.8	285.8	284.0	0	+ 1.8
GOVERNMENT	314.8	315.3	310.3	- 0.5	+ 4.5
Federal	34.3	34.1	33.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
State and Local	280.5	281.2	276.5	- 0.7	+ 4.0
State	102.1	103.0	101.6	- 0.9	+ 0.5
Local	178.4	178.2	174.9	+ 0.2	+ 3.5

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**
ll MANUFACTURING (1)	$394.18	$383.72	$401.38	40.1	39.6	42.7	$9.83	$9.69	$9.40
Durable Goods	349.32	335.78	377.74	38.9	38.2	42.3	8.98	8.79	8.93
Lumber & Wood Products	278.39	281.08	266.90	39.1	39.7	39.6	7.12	7.08	6.74
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	350.88	357.85	335.55	43.0	42.5	39.2	8.16	8.42	8.56
Fabricated Metal Products	361.77	367.46	401.86	38.9	39.3	41.6	9.30	9.35	9.66
Machinery, ex. Electrical	329.73	279.06	369.21	36.8	32.6	39.7	8.96	8.56	9.30
Electric & Electronic Equip.	375.36	343.42	393.20	39.1	38.2	40.0	9.60	8.99	9.83
Transportation Equipment	397.55	376.16	406.95	39.4	38.7	43.9	10.09	9.72	9.27
Nondurable Goods	439.43	431.96	423.98	41.3	41.1	43.0	10.64	10.51	9.86
Food & Kindred Products	259.29	268.09	263.91	38.7	41.5	41.3	6.70	6.46	6.39
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	188.00	187.40	167.66	37.6	32.2	38.9	5.00	5.82	4.31
Paper & Allied Products	539.74	558.95	499.68	42.2	43.6	43.3	12.79	12.82	11.54
Printing & Publishing	348.25	355.42	301.68	39.8	40.9	36.0	8.75	8.69	8.38
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	619.40	599.23	604.15	42.6	41.7	43.0	14.54	14.37	14.05
Petroleum & Coal Products	615.02	574.25	569.16	46.0	42.6	45.9	13.37	13.48	12.40
Petroleum Refining	628.82	583.63	590.79	46.0	42.2	46.3	13.67	13.83	12.76
INING	516.36	511.68	446.18	47.9	46.9	43.7	10.78	10.91	10.21
OMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	484.88	500.71	455.12	42.2	41.9	39.1	11.49	11.95	11.64
ANKING	223.88	222.34	222.12	38.8	38.4	38.9	5.77	5.79	5.71

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1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 134,500 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 112,700 onsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" asis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY DECEMBER 1983				REVISED NOVEMBER 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	23,775	20,925	2,850	12.0	24,600	21,275	3,325	13.6
Oakdale (Allen)	6,050	4,750	1,300	21.3	6,300	4,875	1,425	22.7
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,525	9,125	1,400	13.4	10,775	9,325	1,450	13.4
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,300	9,900	1,400	12.4	11,375	9,875	1,500	13.3
Arcadia (Bienville)	6,750	6,100	650	9.7	6,850	6,150	700	10.4
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,525	3,950	575	12.4	4,575	4,025	550	12.1
Cameron (Cameron)	4,725	4,250	475	10.2	4,800	4,325	475	10.1
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,575	5,900	675	10.3	6,700	6,050	650	9.6
Homer (Claiborne)	7,225	6,625	600	8.1	7,325	6,675	650	8.8
Ferriday (Concordia)	8,825	7,700	1,125	12.8	8,875	7,825	1,050	11.8
Mansfield (DeSoto)	10,650	9,600	1,050	9.9	10,725	9,625	1,100	10.2
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,225	3,475	750	17.8	4,325	3,700	625	14.5
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,625	6,950	675	8.8	7,750	7,000	750	9.7
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	13,300	11,375	1,925	14.5	14,075	11,950	2,125	15.2
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,900	7,525	1,375	15.5	9,100	7,725	1,375	15.2
New Iberia (Iberia)	39,125	34,525	4,600	11.8	39,875	34,775	5,100	12.8
Plaquemine (Iberville)	14,900	13,300	1,600	10.8	15,300	13,575	1,725	11.3
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,250	5,725	525	8.2	6,350	5,775	575	9.0
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,300	11,325	1,975	14.8	13,900	11,600	2,300	16.6
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	40,400	36,250	4,150	10.2	40,975	36,625	4,350	10.6
Jena (LaSalle)	5,800	5,275	525	9.3	5,825	5,250	575	9.9
Ruston (Lincoln)	20,775	19,550	1,225	5.9	20,800	19,675	1,125	5.5
Tallulah (Madison)	4,750	4,075	675	14.0	4,775	4,250	525	11.3
Bastrop (Morehouse)	12,400	10,825	1,575	12.7	12,550	11,075	1,475	11.7
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	16,350	14,800	1,550	9.4	16,450	14,925	1,525	9.2
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,625	13,550	1,075	7.3	15,175	13,725	1,450	7.7
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,075	10,725	1,350	11.2	12,375	10,925	1,450	11.7
Coushatta (Red-River)	3,825	3,475	350	9.1	3,900	3,525	375	9.4
Rayville (Richland)	7,450	6,425	1,025	13.8	7,525	6,550	975	13.0
Many (Sabine)	7,725	6,975	750	9.8	7,750	6,950	800	10.3
Norco (St. Charles)	23,575	21,550	2,025	8.6	24,150	21,875	2,275	9.4
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,000	3,600	400	9.8	4,050	3,625	425	10.6
Lutcher (St. James)	8,025	6,975	1,050	13.2	8,250	7,100	1,150	13.9
Reserve (St. John)	17,375	15,475	1,900	10.9	17,800	15,525	2,275	12.8
Opelousas (St. Landry)	34,600	28,900	5,700	16.5	35,575	29,275	6,300	17.7
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	19,275	16,650	2,625	13.7	19,750	17,000	2,750	14.0
Morgan City (St. Mary)	34,125	29,600	4,525	13.3	35,325	30,200	5,125	14.5
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	32,850	27,825	5,025	15.3	33,800	28,225	5,575	16.5
St. Joseph (Tensas)	2,775	2,400	375	13.6	2,875	2,550	325	11.4
Houma (Terrebonne)	48,350	43,275	5,075	10.5	49,475	43,625	5,850	11.8
Farmerville (Union)	7,175	6,350	825	11.6	7,225	6,375	850	11.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	24,100	21,400	2,700	11.2	25,125	22,025	3,100	12.3
Leesville (Vernon)	11,375	9,875	1,500	13.1	11,550	9,875	1,675	14.4
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,150	12,050	2,100	14.9	14,525	12,150	2,375	16.4
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	3,950	3,200	750	18.9	4,100	3,375	725	17.7
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,200	2,950	250	7.8	3,225	2,950	275	8.7
Winnfield (Winn)	5,575	4,875	700	12.5	5,625	4,850	775	13.6

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Net Change From	
				Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	55.3	55.7	54.5	- 0.4	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	5.4	5.8	5.3	- 0.4	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.4	2.8	2.3	- 0.4	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	1.0	0.6	- 0.4	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.9	49.9	49.2	0	+ 0.7
Construction	3.6	3.7	3.4	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.8	12.7	12.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.9	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.0	9.9	9.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.2	2.1	2.2	+ 0.1	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.2	4.2	4.0	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Services & Mining	11.9	11.9	11.6	0	+ 0.3
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.6	6.5	0	+ 0.1
Government	16.1	16.1	16.0	0	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.9	5.9	5.8	0	+ 0.1
Local	7.4	7.4	7.4	0	0

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area decreased to 55,300. This was a loss of 400 from the previous month, but an overall gain of 800 from this month a year ago. This months loss was in manufacturing.

Manufacturing employment declined by 400 in December to 5,400. The loss was in food and kindred products and were seasonal reductions at a local food processing plant. Since December a year ago, manufacturing employment has had an overall increase of 100.

Employment in nonmanufacturing remained unchanged since last month and is estimated to be 49,900. There were some minor losses in construction, but there was a minor gain in retail trade. Compared to this month a year ago, nonmanufacturing employment has increased 700 with increases in each major segment except finance, insurance and real estate and transportation, communication, and utilities.

During the next thirty days total employment should decrease due to adverse weather conditions and the close of the holiday season. Due to the same reasons we should have an increase in the number of unemployed and the unemployment rate.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Net Change From Nov. 1983	Net Change From Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	213.3	212.1	209.8	+ 1.2	+ 3.5
MANUFACTURING	24.3	24.4	25.2	- 0.1	- 0.9
Durable Goods	4.8	4.7	4.8	+ 0.1	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.5	1.4	1.5	+ 0.1	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	2.0	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	19.5	19.7	20.4	- 0.2	- 0.9
Food & Kindred Products	2.8	2.8	2.5	0	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.5	13.7	14.7	- 0.2	- 1.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	189.0	187.7	184.6	+ 1.3	+ 4.4
Mining	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Construction	22.1	21.5	21.8	+ 0.6	+ 0.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.1	10.1	10.5	0	- 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	50.5	50.0	48.1	+ 0.5	+ 2.4
Wholesale Trade	11.7	11.8	11.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	38.8	38.2	36.5	+ 0.6	+ 2.3
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.1	11.9	12.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Services	39.0	38.6	37.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.5
Government	53.7	54.1	53.2	- 0.4	+ 0.5

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$484.55	$470.11	$482.03	41.7	42.2	43.0	$11.62	$11.14	$11.21
Petro-Chemicals	639.04	618.19	605.25	43.8	42.9	44.9	14.59	14.41	13.48

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 15,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 213,300 during December, up 1,200 from November's revised estimate of 212,100 and up 3,500 over the total for last December. Manufacturing employment dropped 100 while nonmanufacturing was up 1,300 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing totaled 24,300 in December, down 100 from the November revised estimate of 24,400. Durable goods at 4,800, increased 100 during the current period due to more business in fabricated structural metal products. Nondurable goods at 19,500, were down 200 due to the closing of a unit in a plant manufacturing industrial organic chemicals and less business in industrial inorganic chemicals.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 189,000 was up 1,300 during December and up 4,400 over December of last year. Mining employment and transportation and public utilities remained stable during the current period. Construction improved due to more activity in general building contractors- non residential buildings and in heavy construction, except highway and street construction. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in chemicals and allied products. Retail trade improved due to increased business in all retail sales industries except eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance, and real estate employment increased due to more business in commercial and stock savings banks. Employment in service industries increased due to more business in photographic studios, portrait, advertising, miscellaneous business services, and in miscellaneous repair shops and related services. Government employment was down due to a drop in the number of part time workers in colleges, universities, professional schools, and junior colleges.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 223,900 during December, up 1,000 over November's revised estimate of 222,900. Unemployment at 19,700 in December was down 2,300 from last month's revised estimate and down 2,700 from December of last year. December's unemployment rate at 8.1 percent is down from the revised 9.0 percent for last month. The local civilian labor force totaled 243,600 during December, down 1,300 from November's total and up 11,100 over the total for last December.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 15,700 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $484.55 in December, up $14.44 from November revised average. Average weekly hours were down 0.5 hours, and average hourly earnings were up $0.48. Longer scheduled workweek and more overtime worked at premium pay in the petro-chemical industries produced these changes.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 1,800 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 310 applicants in jobs during Decmeber.

The consumer price index for November, 1983 for all urban consumers was 303.1 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 301.4 using base period 1967=100.

Unemployment and the unemployment rate expected to increase during the coming month due to seasonal changes.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	96.3	95.6	100.7	+ 0.7	- 4.4
MANUFACTURING	5.1	5.1	5.2	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	3.0	2.9	3.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	2.1	2.2	2.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	91.2	90.5	95.5	+ 0.7	- 4.3
Mining	17.7	17.1	19.7	+ 0.6	- 2.0
Construction	6.1	6.1	6.8	0	- 0.7
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	7.9	7.8	7.9	+ 0.1	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.5	24.3	25.2	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	7.7	7.7	7.8	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	16.8	16.6	17.4	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.3	3.3	3.3	0	0
Food Stores	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.7	1.8	1.7	- 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	9.8	9.5	10.3	+ 0.3	- 0.5
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.6	0	+ 0.2
Services	20.1	20.1	21.2	0	- 1.1
Government	11.1	11.3	11.1	- 0.2	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during December stood at 96,300, an increase of 700 from the previous month and 4,400 below the comparable figure a year ago.

The increase in nonmanufacturing was responsible for the increase in nonagricultural employment. Employment gains in mining was responsible for the increase in nonmanufacturing. The increase was 600 over the previous month.

Manufacturing remained the same over the previous month but decreased 100 over the same period of time a year ago.

The wholesale and retail trade showed an increase as a result of the Christmas seasonal hiring. This should decrease after the first of the year.

Other areas remained relatively stable and reflected little increase or decrease over the previous month.

The unemployment rate should rise over the next thirty days as a result of the adverse weather conditions which restrict construction and other employment which is conducted outdoors. The slowdown in drilling activities in the oil industry and related services will also be a contributing factor in the unemployment rate rise.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	59.7	60.2	62.0	- 0.5	- 2.3
MANUFACTURING	9.5	9.7	10.5	- 0.2	- 1.0
Durable Goods	0.9	0.9	1.2	0	- 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.8	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	8.6	8.8	9.3	- 0.2	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet Products	7.8	7.9	8.5	- 0.1	- 0.7
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.5	0.4	- 0.1	0
NONMANUFACTURING	50.2	50.5	51.5	- 0.3	- 1.3
Mining	2.4	2.4	2.3	0	+ 0.1
Construction	3.7	3.8	4.9	- 0.1	- 1.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.8	4.9	4.6	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	15.0	15.1	15.5	- 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Retail Trade	11.5	11.6	12.0	- 0.1	- 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.6	2.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.1	3.1	3.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	11.0	11.0	10.6	0	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.2	10.2	10.6	0	- 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment fell 500 from mid-November as a result of declines in both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing. The current estimate falls 2,300 below the year ago level. This loss was equally shared by the above major industry groups.

Employment on manufacturing payrolls dipped 200 below the November level and all of this loss occurred in the petroleum and chemical establishments. During the twelve month period from December 1982 factory employment fell 1,000 and 700 of this was in petroleum chemicals. The remainder occurred in other durable goods.

The nonfactory job loss totalled 300 from mid-November. Construction, transportation & public utilities, and trade each declined by 100. Trade, which usually expands in December as a result of the holiday shopping, declined due to a labor dispute involving in excess of 250 workers. Over-the-year losses totalled 1,300 jobs. The greater part of this loss occurred in construction.

Employment may continue to edge downward and unemployment may climb slightly during January.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Net Change From Nov. 1983	Net Change From Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	51.0	50.6	51.8	+ 0.4	- 0.8
MANUFACTURING	7.4	7.4	7.1	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.7	2.7	2.4	0	+ 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.3	0.2	- 0.1	0
Other Durable Goods	2.5	2.4	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	4.7	4.7	4.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.8	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	43.6	43.2	44.7	+ 0.4	- 1.1
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Construction	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.7	2.8	2.7	- 0.1	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.1	13.8	13.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	4.0	3.9	4.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.1	9.9	9.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.7	2.9	+ 0.2	0
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	9.8	9.7	9.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.1	4.2	4.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	8.9	8.8	10.5	+ 0.1	- 1.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment was estimated at 51,000, a gain of 400 from the revised November estimate of 50,600.

Manufacturing was unchanged over the month, but 300 more than December 1982.

Nonmanufacturing estimated at 43,600 was 400 above the November estimate. The only loss was in transportation and public utilities. Wholesale and retail trade experienced the largest gain, 300, as the holiday season peaked. Other gains were in services and government, 100 each. All other segments were unchanged.

The outlook over the next thirty days is for employment to decline as the holiday season ends and inclement weather curtails outside activity. Unemployment will increase for the same reasons.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Net Change From Nov. 1983	Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	508.5	507.7	513.7	+ 0.8	- 5.2
MANUFACTURING	42.7	43.3	46.4	- 0.6	- 3.7
Durable Goods	24.7	25.3	27.6	- 0.6	- 2.9
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	3.3	3.4	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.4	13.9	15.4	- 0.5	- 2.0
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.7	9.2	11.4	- 0.5	- 2.7
Other Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	2.2	0	- 0.7
Nondurable Goods	18.0	18.0	18.8	0	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	7.4	7.4	7.9	0	- 0.5
Apparel & Other Textile Products	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.2	1.2	1.3	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	465.8	464.4	467.3	+ 1.4	- 1.5
Mining	20.9	20.8	20.9	+ 0.1	0
Construction	31.7	32.2	31.1	- 0.5	+ 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	47.4	47.7	49.1	- 0.3	- 1.7
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	17.2	17.4	17.6	- 0.2	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	130.2	128.8	129.3	+ 1.4	+ 0.9
Wholesale Trade	33.2	33.1	35.1	+ 0.1	- 1.9
Retail Trade	97.0	95.7	94.2	+ 1.3	+ 2.8
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	30.8	30.8	31.1	0	- 0.3
Services	124.0	123.9	125.9	+ 0.1	- 1.9
Government	80.8	80.2	79.9	+ 0.6	+ 0.9
Federal	15.0	14.9	15.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2
State	19.7	19.5	20.5	+ 0.2	- 0.8
Local	46.1	45.8	44.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.9

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$363.78	$359.58	$363.80	38.7	39.0	40.7	$9.40	$9.22	$9.43
Durable Goods	389.82	381.75	412.10	39.9	40.1	41.5	9.77	9.52	9.9
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	373.66	372.19	315.65	42.9	41.4	38.4	8.71	8.99	8.22
Fabricated Metal Products	410.94	416.00	421.73	39.1	40.0	36.8	10.51	10.40	11.46
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	384.00	350.43	414.30	38.4	37.6	44.5	10.00	9.32	9.31
Nondurable Goods	325.09	326.38	336.02	36.9	37.3	39.3	8.81	8.75	8.55
Food & Kindred Products	263.90	267.90	257.72	36.4	36.8	37.9	7.25	7.28	6.80
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	133.64	132.14	137.94	29.5	29.3	33.0	4.53	4.51	4.18
Paper & Allied Products	404.20	358.99	385.85	46.3	43.2	44.3	8.73	8.31	8.71
Printing & Publishing	306.49	328.95	310.34	36.1	38.7	37.8	8.49	8.50	8.21
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	545.42	553.22	748.52	38.6	39.8	48.7	14.13	13.90	15.37

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 28,300 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in December moved up to 508,500, a level of 800 above November. The normal seasonal upturn in retail trade dominated changes as shopping for the holiday season neared its peak. Less favorably, manufacturing was hurt by a decrease in ship and boatbuilding and repairing. Since December of last year, nonagricultural wage and salary employment is down by 5,200.

Total manufacturing employment was 42,700 in December, down 600 from last month. Ship and boatbuilding and repairing dropped to 8,700 from 9,200 last month and 11,400 one year ago. Employment in manufacturing is down 2,900 from last year's December total.

Nonmanufacturing changes were highlighted by seasonal gains in retail trade, mostly in general merchandise stores, apparel stores, miscellaneous stores, and eating and drinking places. Wholesale trade edged up slightly. Local government reflected additional workers hired by the public schools as the autumn semester moved further along. In services, the opening of the Fair Grounds racing season brought a substantial increase that was almost offset by decreases in private health services, business services, and the hotel-motel industry. Mining eked out a small gain as the oil and gas industry made preparations for a higher level of work in coming months. Less favorably, construction made downward adjustments necessitated by winter weather conditions. Water transportation fluctuated downward, although remaining on a level higher than those of several recent previous months. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed no significant change. Over the year, nonmanufacturing employment is down by 1,500.

New Orleans area production workers earned an average $363.78 a week in December, $4.20 more than last month. Average weekly hours dropped 18 minutes which was more than offset by the rise in average hourly earnings of $0.18. Compared to one year ago, average weekly earnings are down $20.02.

Estimated unemployment in December moved down to 47,000, a level 5,100 below November. Seasonal factors were mostly responsible. Current joblessness accounts for 8.9 percent of the labor force compared to 9.8 percent in November and 10.0 percent in December of last year. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totalled 13,163. About 43.0 percent of the claimants were non-white; approximately 28.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show normal seasonal changes. Retail trade will make downward adjustments following the close of the holiday season. Construction and mining will show the effects of winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably increase as employment decreases.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1983*	Nov. 1983**	Dec. 1982**	Net Change From Nov. 1983	Net Change From Dec. 1982
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	147.5	147.1	146.2	+ 0.4	+ 1.3
MANUFACTURING	24.4	24.3	23.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Durable Goods	18.5	18.4	17.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.6	1.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Metals and Machinery	10.8	10.7	11.8	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Primary and Fabricated Metals	4.0	3.9	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	6.8	6.8	8.1	0	- 1.3
Other Durable Goods	6.2	6.1	4.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.0
Nondurable Good	5.9	5.9	6.0	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	123.1	122.8	122.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Mining	7.3	7.2	7.7	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Construction	7.6	8.0	7.6	- 0.4	0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	8.9	8.7	9.1	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.7	34.0	34.7	+ 0.7	0
Wholesale Trade	8.7	8.5	9.0	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Retail Trade	26.0	25.5	25.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	7.9	8.0	7.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Services	30.2	30.5	30.2	- 0.3	0
Government	26.5	26.4	25.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.6

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**	Dec. '83*	Nov. '83**	Dec. '82**
All MANUFACTURING	$407.36	$382.00	$332.20	40.9	40.0	39.5	$9.96	$9.55	$8.41
Lumber and Wood Products	192.85	218.67	209.93	35.0	37.0	38.1	5.51	5.91	5.51
Metals and Machinery	413.42	374.74	409.36	42.1	40.6	41.1	9.82	9.23	9.96
Food and Kindred Products	197.49	191.91	199.58	31.7	32.2	34.0	6.23	5.96	5.87
Printing and Publishing	236.04	230.04	236.05	30.3	28.9	33.2	7.79	7.96	7.11
Petroleum and Coal Products	619.13	521.86	457.10	50.5	45.3	43.7	12.26	11.52	10.46

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 18,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport Area increased to 147,500, up from the revised November estimate of 147,100. A slight increase in total employment occurred in both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing during the past month.

Total manufacturing employment increased during the past month. The current estimate of 24,400 is 100 more than the revised November estimate of 24,300.

Nonmanufacturing employment had an overall gain of 300. The largest gain during the past month occurred in trade, up 700 from the revised November figure, and equals the December 1982 estimate. During the past month there were small increases in mining, transportation and public utilities and government, but losses were experienced in construction, finance, insurance and real estate and services employment.

The Shreveport area has an estimated 18,400 production workers with average weekly earnings of $407.36, up from $382.00 last month and $332.20 for December 1982. Average weekly hours rose from 40.0 last month to 40.9. Average hourly earnings rose from $9.55 to $9.96.

The Shreveport area has a civilian labor force of 167,200, comprising 151,000 employed and 16,200 unemployed. The current unemployment rate is 9.7 percent, compared with 10.5 percent for last month and 12.5 percent for December, 1982.

No significant employment or unemployment changes are expected during the next month. A gradual upward trend in employment should continue. Unemployment will likely remain near the present level.

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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Ulysses Williams, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

JANUARY 1984

RELEASE DATE:
February 23, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY JANUARY 1984				REVISED DECEMBER 1983				REVISED JANUARY 1983			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,888.6	1691.6	197.0	10.4	1,891.4	1,696.1	195.3	10.3	1,851.6	1,621.4	230.2	12.4
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	76.3	68.2	8.1	10.7	76.3	68.6	7.7	10.2	74.0	64.0	10.0	13.5
Baton Rouge 2/	240.2	220.6	19.6	8.2	242.6	222.1	20.5	8.4	229.8	206.3	23.5	10.2
Lafayette 3/	103.3	96.4	6.9	6.6	94.8	88.0	6.8	7.1	95.3	88.3	7.0	7.4
Lake Charles 4/	76.3	64.7	11.6	15.1	77.0	66.0	11.0	14.3	76.4	64.9	11.5	15.0
Monroe 5/	58.0	52.0	6.0	10.4	58.7	52.8	5.9	10.0	59.5	51.8	7.7	12.9
New Orleans 6/	527.0	480.0	47.0	8.9	528.8	480.8	48.0	9.1	516.4	461.4	55.0	10.7
Shreveport 7/	168.1	152.1	16.0	9.5	169.2	152.8	16.4	9.7	163.6	143.6	20.0	12.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during January amounted to 1,560,300, a decrease of 20,400 from the previous month but a gain of 9,500 over the comparable period a year ago. The state's nonmanufacturing industries, especially trade and government, contributed most to the lower employment level for the current month. Louisiana's manufacturing payrolls were down as a result of declines in both the durable and nondurable goods segment.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Monthly employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, at 77,700 for January, was 600 lower than the December level and 4,800 below January a year ago. A plant closure in the millwork, plywood and structural members segment of the lumber and wood products industry was the prime force in the lower employment for this industry. Stone, clay and glass products employment was lower this month due in large part to less business for the concrete, gypsum and plaster products segment. Fabricated metal products employment was down as cutbacks occurred in the production of metal cans and shipping containers and fabricated structural metal products. Machinery, except electrical, employment edged upward from December's level due mostly to increases in the manufacture of construction and related machinery and general industrial machinery. Transportation equipment payrolls slipped below last month's level due to less business for the state's shipyards. Miscellaneous manufacturing industries contributed to the upturn in other durable goods employment.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for January amounted to 98,300, a decrease of 1,800 below last month's level and 1,900 lower than January of last year. Seasonal declines in the processing of sugar cane and in seafood canning were primary in the drop of food and kindred products payrolls. Cutbacks in paperboard mill payrolls contributed to the slight downturn in paper and allied products employment. Lessened demand for industrial inorganic and industrial organic chemicals accounted for the drop in chemicals and allied payrolls.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during January was 1,384,300, down by 18,000 from the December level. Mining employment was up as a result of an upturn in the exploration for oil and gas. A decline of activity in heavy construction and in certain special trades accounted for the decrease in construction payrolls. Transportation and public utilities experienced a decrease in employment levels as a result of less activity in trucking and warehousing and cutbacks in the telephone communication industry. As expected, cutbacks in retail trade payroll levels due to the ending of the holiday season were most significant in the downward turn of trade employment. Services employment in January dropped from the December level largely as a result of a decline in educational services employees. Reductions in state and local education employees were primary in the decrease of government employment.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 121,300 production workers in manufacturing increased from $402.12 in December to $417.31 in January, an increase of $15.19 and $25.90 higher than January of last year. Average hourly earnings were $0.20 more in January than last month and $0.51 more than December of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.4 for the current month, up by 0.7 hours from December's figure.

Estimated total unemployment in Louisiana, at 197,000 for January, was up by 1,700 from December's level of 195,300. The state's unemployment rate for January was 10.4 percent compared to 10.3 percent last month and 12.4 percent in January of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for January was 8.8 percent compared to 8.0 percent in December and 11.4 percent in January a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,891,400 in December to 1,888,600 in January, a decrease of 2,800. Total employment for Louisiana went from 1,696,100 in December to 1,691,600 in January, a decrease of 4,500, but an increase of 70,200 above January of last year.

The state's unemployment rate should decline slightly in the next few months. Construction, mining and government should exhibit an upward trend in the upcoming month. Manufacturing employment is expected to fall slightly from present levels.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change from Dec. 1983	Net Change from Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,560.3	1,580.7	1,550.8	-20.4	+ 9.5
MINING AND QUARRYING	79.7	79.5	84.9	+ 0.2	- 5.2
Oil and Gas Extraction	76.5	76.3	81.7	+ 0.2	- 5.2
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	114.3	115.8	110.9	- 1.5	+ 3.4
MANUFACTURING	176.0	178.4	182.7	- 2.4	- 6.7
Durable Goods	77.7	78.3	82.5	- 0.6	- 4.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.0	13.4	12.1	- 0.4	+ 0.9
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.3	7.4	7.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.4	4.3	0	- 0.9
Fabricated Metal Products	13.4	13.6	14.1	- 0.2	- 0.7
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.5	9.4	10.8	+ 0.1	- 1.3
Electric & Electronic Equipment	8.1	8.1	8.4	0	- 0.3
Transportation Equipment	20.1	20.2	22.7	- 0.1	- 2.6
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.2	2.1	2.2	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	98.3	100.1	100.2	- 1.8	- 1.9
Food & Kindred Products	22.6	24.2	22.7	- 1.6	- 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.5	8.5	7.8	0	+ 0.7
Paper & Allied Products	11.6	11.7	11.8	- 0.1	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.6	0	+ 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	29.4	29.5	31.4	- 0.1	- 2.0
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.6	12.6	13.0	0	- 0.4
Petroleum Refining	11.9	12.0	12.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	113.1	115.6	120.3	- 2.5	- 7.2
Railroad Transportation	7.1	7.1	7.0	0	+ 0.1
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.0	67.6	70.3	- 0.6	- 3.3
Communications & Public Utilities	39.0	40.9	43.0	- 1.9	- 4.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	370.0	380.1	358.6	-10.1	+11.4
Wholesale Trade	95.2	95.6	94.7	- 0.4	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	274.8	284.5	263.9	- 9.7	+10.9
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	58.5	64.7	58.4	- 6.2	+ 0.1
Food Stores	50.5	50.6	49.5	- 0.1	+ 1.0
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.9	30.8	30.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Eating & Drinking Places	83.7	85.5	76.8	- 1.8	+ 6.9
Other Retail Trade	51.2	52.9	49.2	- 1.7	+ 2.0
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.4	83.4	80.4	0	+ 3.0
Banking	27.7	27.9	26.9	- 0.2	+ 0.8
SERVICES	307.2	307.9	299.5	- 0.7	+ 7.7
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.6	21.7	20.7	- 0.1	+ 0.9
Other Services	285.6	286.2	278.8	- 0.6	+ 6.8
GOVERNMENT	316.6	320.0	313.5	- 3.4	+ 3.1
Federal	34.4	34.3	33.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
State and Local	282.2	285.7	279.6	- 3.5	+ 2.6
State	99.6	102.5	100.8	- 2.9	- 1.2
Local	182.6	183.2	178.8	- 0.6	+ 3.8

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$417.31	$402.12	$391.41	41.4	40.7	40.9	$10.08	$9.88	$9.57
Durable Goods	364.61	364.51	370.12	40.2	40.1	41.4	9.07	9.09	8.94
Lumber & Wood Products	269.66	261.51	282.53	38.8	37.9	43.6	6.95	6.90	6.48
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	342.60	360.39	357.20	38.8	42.7	41.2	8.83	8.44	8.67
Fabricated Metal Products	353.73	354.21	382.98	39.0	39.4	39.0	9.07	8.99	9.82
Machinery, ex. Electrical	372.49	374.94	391.99	39.5	40.1	43.7	9.43	9.35	8.97
Electric & Electronic Equip.	449.59	426.01	382.36	42.9	41.2	39.5	10.48	10.34	9.68
Transportation Equipment	421.94	410.40	411.09	40.3	40.0	42.6	10.47	10.26	9.65
Nondurable Goods	465.19	439.85	412.67	42.6	41.3	40.3	10.92	10.65	10.24
Food & Kindred Products	270.43	258.26	251.67	37.3	37.0	38.6	7.25	6.98	6.52
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	196.99	188.03	155.73	40.7	45.2	36.3	4.84	4.16	4.29
Paper & Allied Products	534.25	522.01	492.63	43.4	42.2	43.1	12.31	12.37	11.43
Printing & Publishing	329.67	333.95	317.63	37.0	36.9	37.5	8.91	9.05	8.47
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	643.87	631.47	572.40	44.9	43.7	42.4	14.34	14.45	13.50
Petroleum & Coal Products	698.45	668.56	619.24	49.5	48.8	46.7	14.11	13.70	13.26
Petroleum Refining	716.72	686.98	638.82	49.6	49.0	46.8	14.45	14.02	13.65
MINING	551.10	540.96	515.52	48.3	48.3	45.5	11.41	11.20	11.33
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	462.00	456.11	451.49	40.0	39.8	39.5	11.55	11.46	11.43
BANKING	230.88	220.55	216.68	39.0	37.7	40.5	5.92	5.85	5.35

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 121,300 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 101,500 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY JANUARY 1984				REVISED DECEMBER 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	23,225	20,375	2,850	12.3	23,250	20,350	2,900	12.5
Oakdale (Allen)	6,300	4,925	1,375	22.0	6,325	5,000	1,325	20.9
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,375	8,675	1,700	16.4	10,275	8,850	1,425	13.9
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,650	10,150	1,500	12.8	11,725	10,300	1,425	12.1
Arcadia (Bienville)	6,950	6,275	675	9.8	7,000	6,325	675	9.6
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,550	4,000	550	12.4	4,675	4,100	575	12.4
Cameron (Cameron)	4,600	4,100	500	10.8	4,750	4,250	500	10.3
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,150	5,400	750	12.2	6,150	5,475	675	11.0
Homer (Claiborne)	7,225	6,600	625	8.5	7,225	6,625	600	8.2
Ferriday (Concordia)	8,825	7,525	1,300	14.8	8,975	7,825	1,150	12.9
Mansfield (DeSoto)	10,900	9,525	1,375	12.6	11,025	9,950	1,075	9.9
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,600	3,625	975	21.3	4,500	3,725	775	17.2
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,525	6,825	700	9.3	7,625	6,925	700	9.1
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	13,575	11,625	1,950	14.4	13,675	11,700	1,975	14.5
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,425	6,975	1,450	17.3	8,500	7,100	1,400	16.4
New Iberia (Iberia)	35,950	31,125	4,825	13.4	35,600	31,000	4,600	12.9
Plaquemine (Iberville)	14,650	13,000	1,650	11.3	14,850	13,200	1,650	11.1
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,025	5,500	525	8.8	6,225	5,700	525	8.4
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	12,575	10,625	1,950	15.5	12,800	10,800	2,000	15.7
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	37,650	33,250	4,400	11.7	37,975	33,725	4,250	11.2
Jena (LaSalle)	5,875	5,275	600	10.2	5,875	5,325	550	9.4
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,025	19,950	1,075	5.1	21,400	20,125	1,275	5.9
Tallulah (Madison)	5,075	4,175	900	17.7	4,975	4,275	700	13.8
Bastrop (Morehouse)	12,825	11,050	1,775	13.8	12,625	11,050	1,575	12.5
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	16,900	15,225	1,675	9.9	17,225	15,625	1,600	9.2
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,100	12,975	1,125	7.9	14,175	13,100	1,075	7.6
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,350	10,925	1,425	11.5	12,625	11,200	1,425	11.3
Coushatta (Red River)	4,225	3,825	400	9.8	4,075	3,725	350	8.7
Rayville (Richland)	7,725	6,600	1,125	14.5	7,750	6,700	1,050	13.6
Many (Sabine)	7,850	7,125	725	9.3	8,025	7,175	850	10.6
Norco (St. Charles)	21,350	19,275	2,075	9.7	21,525	19,450	2,075	9.6
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,100	3,700	400	9.9	4,250	3,850	400	9.7
Lutcher (St. James)	10,575	9,300	1,275	12.0	10,550	9,425	1,125	10.7
Reserve (St. John)	17,200	15,225	1,975	11.5	17,300	15,350	1,950	11.3
Opelousas (St. Landry)	33,850	27,925	5,925	17.5	34,125	28,350	5,775	16.9
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	18,875	16,125	2,750	14.6	19,325	16,650	2,675	13.8
Morgan City (St. Mary)	32,625	27,800	4,825	14.8	32,325	27,750	4,575	14.2
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	33,250	28,150	5,100	15.3	33,725	28,600	5,125	15.2
St. Joseph (Tensas)	2,800	2,325	475	17.0	2,850	2,475	375	13.6
Houma (Terrebonne)	44,900	39,750	5,150	11.5	45,325	40,125	5,200	11.5
Farmerville (Union)	7,525	6,625	900	11.9	7,600	6,750	850	11.1
Abbeville (Vermilion)	23,725	20,850	2,875	12.2	23,825	21,025	2,800	11.7
Leesville (Vernon)	11,975	10,400	1,575	13.1	12,300	10,750	1,550	12.6
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,100	11,950	2,150	15.2	14,175	12,050	2,125	15.0
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,100	3,175	925	22.7	4,000	3,225	775	19.2
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,325	3,025	300	8.8	3,375	3,100	275	7.9
Winnfield (Winn)	5,450	4,775	675	12.3	5,550	4,850	700	12.7

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change From Dec. 1983	Net Change From Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.0	54.6	52.6	- 0.6	+ 1.4
MANUFACTURING	5.4	5.4	5.1	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.6	49.2	47.5	- 0.6	+ 1.1
Construction	3.2	3.5	3.0	- 0.3	+ 0.2
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.4	12.7	12.0	- 0.3	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Retail Trade	9.7	10.0	9.3	- 0.3	+ 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.2	1.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	4.1	4.3	4.0	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services & Mining	11.7	11.7	11.4	0	+ 0.3
Health Services	5.2	5.2	4.9	0	+ 0.3
Other Services & Mining	6.5	6.5	6.5	0	0
Government	15.9	15.9	15.8	0	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.9	5.9	5.8	0	+ 0.1
Local	7.2	7.2	7.2	0	0

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment declined in the Alexandria Labor Market Area in January to 54,000. This was a decline of 600 from the previous month, but an overall gain of 1,400 from this month a year ago. This months loss was in nonmanufacturing.

Manufacturing employment, unchanged since the previous month, has increased 300 from this month a year ago. The gain was in both durable and nondurable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing for January decreased by 600 since last month. The declines were in the construction and retail trade industries. These losses were seasonal due to the inclement weather and the ending of the holiday season. Compared to this month a year ago, employment in nonmanfacturing has increased by 1,100, with increases in each major segment except transportation, communication, and public utilities.

Total employment should be fairly constant during the next thirty days. The number of unemployed may increase slightly due to the inclement weather.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change From Dec. 1983	Net Change From Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	208.2	211.2	201.6	- 3.0	+ 6.6
MANUFACTURING	21.9	22.3	23.1	- 0.4	- 1.2
Durable Goods	3.9	3.9	4.0	0	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.3	0	+ 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.8	0.9	0.8	- 0.1	0
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.6	1.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	18.0	18.4	19.1	- 0.4	- 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.3	2.0	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.3	13.4	14.5	- 0.1	- 1.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.2	1.1	- 0.1	0
NONMANUFACTURING	186.3	188.9	178.5	- 2.6	+ 7.8
Mining	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Construction	19.5	20.7	20.5	- 1.2	- 1.0
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.0	10.3	10.1	- 0.3	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	50.1	51.2	46.4	- 1.1	+ 3.7
Wholesale Trade	11.5	11.4	11.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	38.6	39.8	35.4	- 1.2	+ 3.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.3	12.4	11.9	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Services	39.0	38.7	37.7	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Government	54.5	54.7	50.8	- 0.2	+ 3.7

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$496.50	$498.74	$467.98	42.4	42.7	40.8	$11.71	$11.68	$11.47
Petro-Chemicals	682.51	659.12	591.59	47.2	45.3	42.9	14.46	14.55	13.79

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 11,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 208,200 during January, down 3,000 from December's revised estimate of 211,200 and up 6,600 over the total for last January. Manufacturing employment was down 400 and nonmanufacturing dropped 2,600 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing totaled 21,900 in January, down 400 from the December revised estimate. Durable goods had no change; however, a drop in stone, clay and glass products due to less demand for structural clay products and concrete, gypsum, and plaster products was offset by an increased demand in iron and steel foundries. Nondurable goods were down due to a seasonal drop in sugar and confectionery products and less demand for industrial organic chemicals and industrial inorganic chemicals.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 186,300 during January was down 2,600 from December's revised estimate. The major loss was due to seasonal drops in retail trade and construction while other losses were due to reduction in trucking, local and long distance, radio and television broadcasting, water suppliers and sanitary services. Finance, insurance & real estate was down due to less activity in commercial and stock savings banks. Government was down due to reduction in state employment. Wholesale trade was up due to more business in hardware and plumbing and heating equipment and supplies and in machinery equipment, and supplies. Services were up due to more activity in advertising, services to dwellings and other buildings, automotive repair shops, hospitals, legal services, and job training and vocational rehabilitation services.

Total employment of the Baton Rouge LMA residents was estimated at 220,600 during January, down 1,500 from December's revised estimate of 222,100. Unemployment at 19,600 in January was down 900 from last month's revised estimate and down 3,900 from January of last year. January's unemployment rate at 8.2 percent is down from the revised 8.4 percent for last month. The unemployment rate for the state was 10.4 percent in January. The local civilian labor force totaled 240,200 in January, down 2,400 from December's total and up 10,400 over the total for last January.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 11,700 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $496.50 in January, down $2.24 from December's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 0.3 hours and average hourly earnings were up three cents. Less overtime worked contributed to these changes.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,158 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 466 applicants in jobs during December.

The consumer price index for December, 1983 for all urban consumers was 303.5 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 301.5 using base period 1967=100. The annual averages for 1983 were 298.4 and 297.4 respectively.

Unemployment and the unemployment rate is expected to drop some during the coming month due to seasonal changes.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change From Dec. 1983	Net Change From Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	95.7	96.3	90.5	- 0.6	+ 5.2
MANUFACTURING	5.2	5.1	4.1	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Durable Goods	3.1	3.0	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Nondurable Goods	2.1	2.1	1.9	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.2	1.3	1.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	90.5	91.2	86.4	- 0.7	+ 4.1
Mining	18.1	17.7	18.0	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Construction	6.1	6.1	5.5	0	- 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	7.9	7.9	7.3	0	+ 0.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.0	24.5	22.9	- 0.5	+ 1.1
Wholesale Trade	7.5	7.7	6.8	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Retail Trade	16.5	16.8	16.1	- 0.3	+ 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	3.3	2.6	- 0.4	+ 0.3
Food Stores	2.1	2.0	2.3	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	9.8	9.8	9.6	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.7	3.8	3.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Services	20.3	20.1	18.1	+ 0.2	+ 2.2
Government	10.4	11.1	10.8	- 0.7	- 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during January stood at 95,700, a decrease of 600 from last month and 5,200 more than January of last year. Most of the decrease of a month ago and the increase of a year ago was in the nonmanufacturing sector.

Nonmanufacturing was 90,500, a decrease of 700 from the previous month and an increase of 4,100 from the same period of time a year ago.

The wholesale and retail trade stood at 24,000, a decrease of 500 from the previous month. This decrease was due to the layoff of temporary help for the Christmas season.

Government showed a decrease of 700 from the previous month. This was due to a decrease of employment in state education. This number should increase next month since school is back in session.

Lafayette's unemployment rate should decrease slightly in the next few months. There are signs that things are beginning to pick up in the oilfield.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change From	
				Dec. 1983	Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.9	60.5	61.5	- 1.6	- 2.6
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.4	10.0	- 0.2	- 0.8
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.6	9.1	- 0.2	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.8	8.3	- 0.2	- 0.7
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.7	51.1	51.5	- 1.4	- 1.8
Mining	2.3	2.4	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	4.8	5.5	6.7	- 0.7	- 1.9
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.0	14.6	14.1	- 0.6	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.3	3.2	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	10.7	11.3	10.9	- 0.6	- 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.2	2.7	2.4	- 0.5	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.1	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.9	10.9	10.7	0	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.5	10.6	0	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The number of workers on nonagricultural payrolls in the Lake Charles area dropped sharply below the December level. Losses totalling 1,600 occurred in all major industry groups. The current worker total falls 2,600 below the year ago level.

Manufacturing employment currently estimated at 9,200 dropped 200 below the mid-December level and this was centered in chemicals and petroleum products. Eight hundred factory workers lost jobs during the twelve month period from January 1983.

The number of workers on nonmanufacturing payrolls declined by 1,400 from mid-December. Most of this decline occurred in construction and retail trade. The construction loss resulted from inclement weather and a lack of construction projects. The loss in retail trade resulted from the layoff of temporary employees hired for the Christmas shopping season.

Employmnent is not expected to increase during the next 30 to 60 days but unemployment may turn upward sharply.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change From Dec. 1983	Net Change From Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	49.8	51.0	51.4	- 1.2	- 1.6
MANUFACTURING	7.0	7.1	7.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.1	0	+ 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.3	0.2	0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.1	1.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.7	4.8	5.0	- 0.1	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.8	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.0	3.1	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.4
NONMANUFACTURING	42.8	43.9	44.3	- 1.1	- 1.5
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Construction	2.6	2.9	2.7	- 0.3	- 0.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.0	14.7	13.5	- 0.7	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	3.9	4.0	4.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.1	10.7	9.5	- 0.6	+ 0.6
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.6	3.2	2.8	- 0.6	- 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.8	2.8	2.6	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.0	4.1	3.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	10.0	10.1	10.2	- 0.1	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.1	4.1	4.2	0	- 0.1
Government	9.0	8.9	10.7	+ 0.1	- 1.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by 1,200 to an estimated 49,800 during mid-January.

Manufacturing was down by 100 workers. The loss was in non-durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing declined by 1,100 to an estimated 42,800. This decline was seasonal, marking the end of the holiday season and the continued adverse weather conditions. As expected the biggest decline, 700 was in wholesale and retail trade and was directly related to the end of the holiday season. Adverse weather was responsible for the 300 decline in construction. Services declined by 100. Finance, insurance and real estate also declined by 100. The only gain was in government, 100 workers.

Employment is expected to begin a gradual increase over the next sixty days. Unemployment, though still high, should decline slowly.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change From Dec. 1983	Net Change From Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	504.5	508.7	502.5	- 4.2	+ 2.0
MANUFACTURING	39.3	39.6	42.8	- 0.3	- 3.5
Durable Goods	22.9	22.9	25.7	0	- 2.8
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	3.3	3.3	3.3	0	0
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	2.9	3.1	0	- 0.2
Transportation Equipment	12.4	12.4	14.5	0	- 2.1
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.7	7.6	10.4	+ 0.1	- 2.7
Other Durable Goods	1.3	1.3	2.0	0	- 0.7
Nondurable Goods	16.4	16.7	17.1	- 0.3	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	7.0	7.2	7.5	- 0.2	- 0.5
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.7	1.8	1.9	- 0.1	- 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	465.2	469.1	459.7	- 3.9	+ 5.5
Mining	18.3	18.5	19.4	- 0.2	- 1.1
Construction	31.7	32.0	29.0	- 0.3	+ 2.7
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.9	46.7	47.7	+ 0.2	- 0.8
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Water Transportation	16.4	16.1	16.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	128.7	131.8	127.2	- 3.1	+ 1.5
Wholesale Trade	34.4	34.7	35.2	- 0.3	- 0.8
Retail Trade	94.3	97.1	92.0	- 2.8	+ 2.3
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.7	31.7	31.2	0	+ 0.5
Services	122.6	122.8	121.0	- 0.2	+ 1.6
Government	85.3	85.6	84.2	- 0.3	+ 1.1
Federal	15.1	15.0	14.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
State	21.1	21.2	22.1	- 0.1	- 1.0
Local	49.1	49.4	47.2	- 0.3	+ 1.9

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$369.89	$362.94	$367.84	39.1	38.9	40.6	$9.46	$9.33	$9.06
Durable Goods	382.98	392.18	402.90	39.2	40.1	42.1	9.77	9.78	9.57
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	343.60	351.05	358.27	41.1	41.3	42.1	8.36	8.50	8.51
Fabricated Metal Products	334.63	410.01	449.04	31.9	38.9	40.6	10.49	10.54	11.06
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	393.97	391.16	409.59	38.7	38.5	43.9	10.18	10.16	9.33
Nondurable Goods	351.78	322.15	310.18	39.0	37.2	38.2	9.02	8.66	8.12
Food & Kindred Products	302.86	263.87	266.26	38.0	36.7	39.8	7.97	7.19	6.69
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	132.42	143.67	118.25	28.6	31.3	27.5	4.63	4.59	4.30
Paper & Allied Products	388.58	402.81	311.20	47.1	46.3	40.0	8.25	8.70	7.78
Printing & Publishing	286.16	306.49	299.03	39.2	36.1	40.3	7.30	8.49	7.42
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	568.58	545.42	532.77	40.7	38.6	39.7	13.97	14.13	13.42

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 24,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in January decreased to 504,500, a level 4,200 below December. Normal seasonal downward adjustments in retail trade dominated changes. Manufacturing sustained the sharp downtrend exhibited since the early part of 1982, moving down to the lowest level in many years. Since January 1983, nonagricultural wage and salary employment gained 2,000 with an increase of 5,500 in nonmanufacturing offsetting a decrease of 3,500 in manufacturing.

Manufacturing employment in the New Orleans area totaled 39,300 in January, 300 less than last month. The durable goods sector held steady over the month. In the nondurable goods sector, decreases in food and kindred products were seasonal and apparel and other textile products exhibited minor scattered layoffs. Compared to January 1983, manufacturing payrolls have dropped 3,500 employees.

Nonmanufacturing moved down, mainly displaying a variety of typical seasonal decreases. Retail trade effected normal layoffs following the close of the holiday season. Wholesale trade eased down. Mining made adjustments necessitated by winter weather conditions. Construction reduced activity in each major segment. In services, private educational services made temporary employment cutbacks between semesters. Partly offsetting this downturn, the hotel-motel industry was boosted by the opening of a new hotel. In government, the minor decrease was mostly in educational services and short-term in nature. Finance, insurance, and real estate held steady. More favorably, water transportation added workers, reflecting a normal fluctuation in local port activity.

Area factory workers earned an average $369.89 a week in January, $6.95 over last months average. Average hourly pay was up $0.13 along with an increase in average weekly hours of 12 minutes. Average weekly earnings are up $2.05 from the average this time last year.

Estimated unemployment in January decreased to 47,000 down 1,000 from December. A reduction in the number of persons in the labor force following the holiday season was mostly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 8.9 percent of the labor force compared to 9.1 percent in December and 10.7 percent in January of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 13,529. Approximately 44.0 percent of the claimants were non-white; about 29.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is predicted to show an overall gain. Highlighting all changes will be an expected increase in work involving preparations for the opening of the 1984 World's Fair. Construction activity will be partly dependent on weather conditions. Mining will hopefully be able to begin a seasonal expansion. Unemployment will probably decrease as employment increases.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Jan. 1984*	Dec. 1983**	Jan. 1983**	Net Change From Dec. 1983	Net Change From Jan. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	146.6	148.9	144.0	- 2.3	+ 2.6
MANUFACTURING	24.0	24.0	22.6	0	+ 1.4
Durable Goods	18.2	18.2	16.9	0	+ 1.3
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.5	1.3	0	+ 0.2
Metals and Machinery	10.9	10.9	11.4	0	- 0.5
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.5	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	7.0	7.0	7.9	0	- 0.9
Other Durable Goods	5.8	5.8	4.2	0	+ 1.6
Nondurable Good	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	122.6	124.9	121.4	- 2.3	+ 1.2
Mining	6.5	6.5	6.4	0	+ 0.1
Construction	8.6	9.2	8.1	- 0.6	+ 0.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.6	9.5	9.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	33.3	34.5	33.9	- 1.2	- 0.6
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.2	9.1	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	24.2	25.3	24.8	- 1.1	- 0.6
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.0	8.0	7.8	0	+ 0.2
Services	30.5	30.9	29.9	- 0.4	+ 0.6
Government	26.1	26.3	26.0	- 0.2	+ 0.1

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**	Jan. '84*	Dec. '83**	Jan. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$406.71	$407.54	$360.08	41.8	41.0	39.7	$9.73	$9.94	$9.07
Lumber and Wood Products	234.05	192.85	207.38	42.4	35.0	39.5	5.52	5.51	5.25
Metals and Machinery	411.17	412.16	375.05	43.1	42.1	40.9	9.54	9.79	9.17
Food and Kindred Products	236.62	197.49	203.63	38.6	31.7	35.6	6.13	6.23	5.72
Printing and Publishing	243.07	236.04	210.65	28.1	30.3	26.2	8.65	7.79	8.04
Petroleum and Coal Products	593.62	619.13	505.91	47.3	50.5	46.8	12.55	12.26	10.81

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 17,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport area is 146,600. This total is 2,300 less than the revised December estimate of 148,900 and is 2,600 more than the January 1983 figure.

Employment in manufacturing, at 24,000, remains unchanged from the previous month, but indicates a 1,400 increase from January 1983.

Employment losses during the past month occurred in nonmanufacturing. The most significant drop was in trade, some 1,200 less than during the December peak sales period. Construction employment dropped to 8,600, showing a decline of 600 during the past month, but up 500 from one year ago. A decline in services and government employment accounts for additional losses in nonmanufacturing.

The average weekly earnings of an estimated 17,500 production workers in the Shreveport area is $406.71, compared with $407.54 for last month and $360.08 for January 1983. The average weekly hours increased from 41.0 last month to 41.8, while the average weekly earnings fell slightly from $9.94 last month to $9.73.

The current civilian labor force in the Shreveport area is 168,100, including 152,100 employed and 16,000 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 9.5 percent, down from 9.7 percent for last month and 12.2 percent for January 1983.

The outlook is for the economy of this area to remain mostly unchanged through the first quarter. Construction activity should increase with improved weather conditions and if the prediction of slightly lower interest rates occur. Small increases in total employment and a gradual lowering of unemployment are expected.

4/9/84 S3320-2 A

LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

FEBRUARY 1984

RELEASE DATE:
March 26, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 1984				REVISED JANUARY 1984				REVISED FEBRUARY 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,889.8	1,704.5	185.3	9.8	1,887.8	1,687.8	200.0	10.6	1,875.4	1,673.2	238.2	12.7
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	76.8	69.0	7.8	10.2	76.6	68.4	8.2	10.8	74.9	65.1	9.8	13.0
Baton Rouge 2/	241.4	222.8	18.6	7.7	239.9	219.7	20.2	8.4	233.8	210.4	23.4	10.0
Lafayette 3/	95.9	89.7	6.2	6.5	95.3	88.5	6.8	7.1	95.1	87.8	7.3	7.7
Lake Charles 4/	75.8	65.1	10.7	14.2	76.7	65.1	11.6	15.2	76.9	65.4	11.5	15.0
Monroe 5/	58.6	52.9	5.7	9.7	58.5	52.5	6.0	10.3	59.8	52.3	7.5	12.6
New Orleans 6/	529.1	484.3	44.8	8.5	530.2	482.4	47.8	9.0	521.5	464.2	57.3	11.0
Shreveport 7/	167.6	153.1	14.5	8.7	167.8	151.7	16.1	9.6	167.2	145.5	21.7	13.0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during February amounted to 1,563,200, an increase of 7,100 above the previous month and an increase of 17,100 over the comparable period a year ago. An increase in the employment level for the state's nonmanufacturing industries was spearheaded by payroll additions in the government sector. Louisiana's manufacturing industries showed higher employment as both the durable and nondurable goods segments experienced upturns.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing increased by 600 workers from January's level. Increased production of wood buildings and mobile homes resulted in an increase in employment for the lumber and wood products industry. Furniture and fixtures employment was up due mostly to more demand for household furniture. Less business for firms manufacturing concrete, gypsum and plaster products, along with a labor dispute in that segment, resulted in a decrease in stone, clay and glass products employment. Cutbacks in the manufacture of fabricated structural metal products were primarily responsible for the decrease in fabricated metal products employment. Increased production of engines and turbines, construction and related machinery, metalworking machinery, and special industry machinery all contributed to the higher employment level in the machinery, except electrical, industry. Accounting for the upturn in electric and electronic equipment employment was the increased demand for communication equipment. Payrolls in the state's transportation equipment industry dropped due to a decline in activity at the state's shipyards.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for February was 97,400, an increase of 100 from last month. Food and kindred products employment declined in February due mostly to a slackening in seafood canning and in vegetable canning. The higher employment level in apparel and other textile products resulted in large part from increased output of men's and boys' furnishings. The paper and allied products industry payroll level rose for the current month mostly resulting from an increase in paperboard mills employment. Lessened demand for industrial organic chemicals primarily accounted for the drop in chemcials and allied products payrolls. Other nondurable goods employment edged up by 100.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during February was 1,387,600, an increase of 6,400 from the January figure of 1,381,200. Increased activity in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas was responsible for the higher employment level in mining this month. A decrease in heavy construction activity accounted for the drop in construction payrolls. An increased need for marine cargo handling pushed the employment level upward in transportation and public utilities. A decrease in trade was centered in the retail segment as department stores, apparel stores, and variety and discount outlets cut their payrolls. Contributiong to an upturn in finance, insurance and real estate employment were payrolls additions in banking and real estate. Increases in educational services were significant in the higher level of employment registered for services in February. Government employment for the current month moved higher largely as a result of increases in state and local education payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's production workers in manufacturing decreased from $422.47 in January to $421.17 in February, a decrease of $1.30, but an increase of $35.11 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were eight cents lower in February than last month, but $0.40 cents more than February of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.7 for the current month, up by 0.2 hours from January's figure.

Estimated total unemployment during February amounted to 185,300, a decrease of 14,700 from the January level of 200,000 and 52,900 below the February a year ago figure. The unemployment rate for February was 9.8 percent, a decrease of 0.8 percentage points lower than last month's rate and 2.9 percentage points below February of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for February was 8.4 percent compared to 8.8 percent in January and 11.3 percent for February a year ago. The state's civilian labor force increased from 1,887,800 in January to 1,889,800 in February, a gain of 2,000. Total employment, estimated at 1,704,500 for the current month, was up by 16,700 above last month's figure and 67,300 higher than February of last year.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to fall slightly in the next month or two. Employment in certain segments of nonmanufacturing, in particular construction, trade and services, will probably experience growth in the next few months. Louisiana's manufacturing industries may show some cutbacks from present employment levels.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Net Change from Jan. 1984	Net Change from Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,563.2	1,556.1	1,546.1	+ 7.1	+ 17.1
MINING AND QUARRYING	80.0	79.7	84.0	+ 0.3	- 4.0
Oil and Gas Extraction	76.8	76.5	80.9	+ 0.3	- 4.1
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.2	3.2	3.1	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	112.6	113.1	109.3	- 0.5	+ 3.3
MANUFACTURING	175.6	174.9	180.1	+ 0.7	- 4.5
Durable Goods	78.2	77.6	80.8	+ 0.6	- 2.6
Lumber and Wood Products	13.1	13.0	12.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.7	0.8	+ 0.1	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.2	7.3	7.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.4	3.8	0	- 0.4
Fabricated Metal Products	13.2	13.3	14.0	- 0.1	- 0.8
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.6	9.5	10.4	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Electric & Electronic Equipment	8.7	8.1	8.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.3
Transportation Equipment	20.0	20.1	21.6	- 0.1	- 1.6
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	97.4	97.3	99.3	+ 0.1	- 1.9
Food & Kindred Products	21.4	21.8	22.2	- 0.4	- 0.8
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.9	8.6	7.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
Paper & Allied Products	11.9	11.5	11.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.6	0	+ 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	29.1	29.4	31.1	- 0.3	- 2.0
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.4	12.4	13.2	0	- 0.8
Petroleum Refining	11.7	11.8	12.5	- 0.1	- 0.8
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.9	3.8	3.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	114.3	113.7	119.9	+ 0.6	- 5.6
Railroad Transportation	7.1	7.1	6.9	0	+ 0.2
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.3	66.6	70.1	+ 0.7	- 2.8
Communications & Public Utilities	39.9	40.0	42.9	- 0.1	- 3.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	368.1	369.7	353.7	- 1.6	+ 14.4
Wholesale Trade	94.5	94.9	94.1	- 0.4	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	273.6	274.8	259.6	- 1.2	+ 14.0
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	56.2	58.5	54.5	- 2.3	+ 1.7
Food Stores	50.4	50.5	49.2	- 0.1	+ 1.2
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.0	30.8	29.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.1
Eating & Drinking Places	84.5	83.8	76.9	+ 0.7	+ 7.6
Other Retail Trade	51.5	51.2	49.1	+ 0.3	+ 2.4
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.5	83.4	80.5	+ 0.1	+ 3.0
Banking	27.8	27.8	27.0	0	+ 0.8
SERVICES	309.3	307.2	301.0	+ 2.1	+ 8.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.7	21.7	21.0	0	+ 0.7
Other Services	287.6	285.5	280.0	+ 2.1	+ 7.6
GOVERNMENT	319.8	314.4	317.6	+ 5.4	+ 2.2
Federal	34.4	34.4	33.8	0	+ 0.6
State and Local	285.4	280.0	283.8	+ 5.4	+ 1.6
State	101.7	97.5	103.2	+ 4.2	- 1.5
Local	183.7	182.5	180.6	+ 1.2	+ 3.1

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$421.17	$422.47	$386.06	41.7	41.5	39.8	$10.10	$10.18	$9.70
Durable Goods	385.85	384.17	360.90	41.4	41.0	40.1	9.32	9.37	9.00
Lumber & Wood Products	327.18	323.57	271.75	39.9	39.8	41.3	8.20	8.13	6.58
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	361.84	343.55	347.13	41.4	38.3	39.9	8.74	8.97	8.70
Fabricated Metal Products	383.83	375.30	395.65	42.6	41.7	41.3	9.01	9.00	9.58
Machinery, ex. Electrical	376.93	408.11	414.40	40.4	41.9	44.8	9.33	9.74	9.25
Electric & Electronic Equip.	454.46	449.59	396.61	43.2	42.9	39.9	10.52	10.48	9.94
Transportation Equipment	432.80	431.75	364.56	40.0	40.2	37.2	10.82	10.74	9.80
Nondurable Goods	452.76	456.29	413.42	42.0	41.9	39.6	10.78	10.89	10.44
Food & Kindred Products	282.17	293.38	254.82	38.6	39.7	37.2	7.31	7.39	6.85
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	190.61	180.94	152.65	38.9	34.4	35.5	4.90	5.26	4.30
Paper & Allied Products	487.13	509.71	486.00	43.3	44.4	43.2	11.25	11.48	11.25
Printing & Publishing	311.25	288.55	308.79	37.5	35.8	36.5	8.30	8.06	8.46
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	640.05	637.43	576.87	43.6	43.9	42.2	14.68	14.52	13.67
Petroleum & Coal Products	672.04	673.88	640.22	47.9	48.1	46.8	14.03	14.01	13.68
Petroleum Refining	674.80	684.41	654.26	48.2	48.3	46.5	14.00	14.17	14.07
MINING	504.13	556.15	513.46	44.3	49.0	45.6	11.38	11.35	11.26
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	473.21	476.19	447.23	39.9	40.7	39.3	11.86	11.70	11.38
BANKING	241.54	245.74	215.02	37.8	39.7	37.2	6.39	6.19	5.78

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 121,000 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 102,400 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY FEBRUARY 1984				REVISED JANUARY 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	23,525	20,875	2,650	11.3	23,325	20,425	2,900	12.4
Oakdale (Allen)	6,375	5,000	1,375	21.5	6,325	4,925	1,400	22.2
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,450	8,900	1,550	14.9	10,425	8,700	1,725	16.6
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,750	10,325	1,425	12.1	11,700	10,200	1,500	12.9
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,025	6,375	650	9.3	6,975	6,275	700	9.9
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,625	4,075	550	11.9	4,575	4,000	575	12.6
Cameron (Cameron)	4,625	4,200	425	9.0	4,625	4,125	500	10.9
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,275	5,575	700	11.1	6,175	5,425	750	12.2
Homer (Claiborne)	7,250	6,675	575	7.8	7,250	6,625	625	8.6
Ferriday (Concordia)	8,975	7,725	1,250	13.8	8,875	7,550	1,325	14.8
Mansfield (DeSoto)	11,025	9,725	1,300	11.8	10,950	9,550	1,400	12.8
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,750	3,825	925	19.4	4,675	3,650	1,025	21.8
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,550	6,950	600	8.0	7,575	6,850	725	9.6
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	13,850	11,925	1,925	13.9	13,625	11,650	1,975	14.4
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,625	7,175	1,450	16.8	8,475	7,000	1,475	17.4
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,025	31,550	4,475	12.4	36,100	31,250	4,850	13.4
Plaquemine (Iberville)	14,750	13,225	1,525	10.4	14,775	13,050	1,725	11.6
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,050	5,550	500	8.0	6,050	5,500	550	9.0
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	12,675	10,900	1,775	14.0	12,650	10,675	1,975	15.6
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	37,825	33,725	4,100	10.8	37,850	33,375	4,475	11.8
Jena (LaSalle)	5,900	5,350	550	9.4	5,925	5,300	625	10.4
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,250	20,300	950	4.4	21,075	20,000	1,075	5.1
Tallulah (Madison)	5,250	4,375	875	16.7	5,125	4,200	925	18.0
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,000	11,375	1,625	12.5	12,900	11,075	1,825	14.1
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,025	15,500	1,525	8.9	17,000	15,275	1,725	10.2
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,175	13,100	1,075	7.6	14,175	13,025	1,150	8.0
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,525	11,225	1,300	10.3	12,425	10,975	1,450	11.7
Coushatta (Red River)	4,100	3,725	375	9.4	4,050	3,650	400	9.9
Rayville (Richland)	7,900	6,800	1,100	14.0	7,775	6,625	1,150	14.8
Many (Sabine)	7,925	7,225	700	8.8	7,900	7,150	750	9.5
Norco (St. Charles)	21,575	19,500	2,075	9.6	21,450	19,350	2,100	9.8
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,175	3,825	350	8.7	4,125	3,700	425	10.1
Lutcher (St. James)	10,725	9,475	1,250	11.6	10,650	9,350	1,300	12.1
Reserve (St. John)	17,325	15,400	1,925	11.1	17,275	15,275	2,000	11.6
Opelousas (St. Landry)	33,875	28,400	5,475	16.2	34,025	28,050	5,975	17.6
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	18,925	16,400	2,525	13.4	18,975	16,175	2,800	14.7
Morgan City (St. Mary)	32,475	28,175	4,300	13.2	32,775	27,900	4,875	14.9
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	33,475	28,650	4,825	14.4	33,475	28,250	5,225	15.6
St. Joseph (Tensas)	2,950	2,500	450	15.5	2,800	2,325	475	17.2
Houma (Terrebonne)	45,150	40,250	4,900	10.8	45,200	39,900	5,300	11.7
Farmerville (Union)	7,600	6,725	875	11.4	7,575	6,650	925	12.1
Abbeville (Vermilion)	24,050	21,275	2,775	11.5	23,850	20,925	2,925	12.3
Leesville (Vernon)	12,000	10,525	1,475	12.2	12,050	10,450	1,600	13.2
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,375	12,225	2,150	15.0	14,250	12,075	2,175	15.2
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,100	3,125	975	23.7	4,175	3,200	975	23.2
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,325	3,050	275	8.0	3,350	3,050	300	9.0
Winnfield (Winn)	5,450	4,850	600	10.8	5,475	4,800	675	12.4

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Jan. 1984	Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	53.9	53.9	52.3	0	+ 1.6
MANUFACTURING	5.4	5.4	4.9	0	+ 0.5
Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.1	0	+ 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.5	0	+ 0.4
NONMANUFACTURING	48.5	48.5	47.4	0	+ 1.1
Construction	3.2	3.2	3.0	0	+ 0.2
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.2	12.3	11.9	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Retail Trade	9.5	9.6	9.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	2.0	1.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.1	0	+ 0.2
Other Retail Trade	4.1	4.1	4.1	0	0
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services & Mining	11.8	11.7	11.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Health Services	5.2	5.2	4.9	0	+ 0.3
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.5	6.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	15.9	15.9	15.8	0	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Local	7.3	7.3	7.2	0	+ 0.1

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area during February was estimated at 53,900. The employment estimate was unchanged since the previous month, but an overall gain of 1,600 from this month a year ago.

Total manufacturing employment unchanged since last month, has increased 500 from February of last year. The gain was in durable and nondurable goods.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing for February remained the same since last month. There was a slight decline in retail trade, but a slight gain in services. Since February of last year, employment in nonmanufacturing has increased by 1,100. Increases were in each major segment, except transportation, communication and utilities.

Total employment should be fairly constant during the next thirty days. The number of unemployed may decrease slightly depending upon the weather.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Jan. 1984	Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	208.5	206.4	203.2	+ 2.1	+ 5.3
MANUFACTURING	21.9	22.1	22.9	- 0.2	- 1.0
Durable Goods	3.9	4.0	3.9	- 0.1	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.3	0	+ 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	1.0	1.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	18.0	18.1	19.0	- 0.1	- 1.0
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.2	13.3	14.4	- 0.1	- 1.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	186.6	184.3	180.3	+ 2.3	+ 6.3
Mining	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Construction	19.6	19.6	21.3	0	- 1.7
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.1	10.0	10.1	+ 0.1	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	50.1	50.0	45.6	+ 0.1	+ 4.5
Wholesale Trade	11.5	11.5	11.0	0	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	38.6	38.5	34.6	+ 0.1	+ 4.0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.3	12.2	12.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Services	38.9	39.0	37.7	- 0.1	+ 1.2
Government	54.7	52.6	52.5	+ 2.1	+ 2.2

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$498.37	$498.10	$463.60	43.0	42.5	40.0	$11.59	$11.72	$11.59
Petro-Chemicals	657.93	667.53	607.51	45.5	46.1	43.8	14.46	14.48	13.87

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 11,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 208,500 during February, up 2,100 over January's revised estimate of 206,400 and up 5,300 over the total for last February. Manufacturing was down 200 and nonmanufacturing was up 2,300 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing totaled 21,900 in Feburary, down 200 from the January revised estimate. Durable goods dropped due to less business in fabricated structural metal products. Nondurable goods were down due partially to what is expected to be the final lay-off in a department closure of an industrial organic chemcials manufacturer.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 186,600 during February was up 2,300 over January's revised estimate. Mining, construction and wholesale trade employment remained stable during the current period. Transportation and public utilities were up due to more business in services incidental to water transportation, radio and television broadcasting, and in sanitary services. Retail trade employment increased due to reopening of eating and drinking places closed last month due to bad weather and more business in lumber and other building materials dealers, motor vehicle dealers (new and used), miscellaneous shopping goods stores and in miscellaneous retail stores, not elsewhere classified. Finance, insurance, and real estate was up due to increased employment in commercial and stock savings banks. Government employment was up due to a seasonal increase in colleges, universities, professional schools, and junior colleges. Services were down due to employment reductions in services to dwellings and other buildings, advertising, hospitals, and in engineering, architectural, and surveying services.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 222,800 during February, up 3,100 from January's revised estimate of 219,700. Unemployment at 18,600 in February was down 1,600 from last month's revised estimate and down 4,800 from February of last year. February's unemployment rate at 7.7 percent is down from the revised 8.4 percent rate for last month. The state's unemployment rate is 9.8 percent for February. The local civilian labor force totaled 241,400 in February, up 1,500 over January's revised total and up 7,600 over the total for last February.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 11,700 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $498.37 in February, up $0.27 from January's revised average. Average weekly hours were up 0.5 hours and average hourly earnings were down $0.13. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,200 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 376 applicants in jobs during February.

The consumer price index for January, 1984 for all urban consumers was 305.2 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 302.7 using base period 1967=100.

Unemployment and the unemployment rate is expected to drop some during the coming month due to seasonal changes.

CORRECTED

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1983*
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	87.8
MANUFACTURING	3.7
Durable Goods	2.0
Nondurable Goods	1.7
Food & Kindred Products	1.1
NONMANUFACTURING	84.1
Mining	16.2
Construction	5.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.8
Wholesale Trade	6.7
Retail Trade	17.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.3
Food Stores	2.4
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5
Other Retail Trade	9.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8
Services	18.0
Government	10.4

The revised data for December 1983 is being corrected to reflect new benchmarked employment which was incorrectly reported last month.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Net Change From Jan. 1984	Net Change From Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.1	87.3	89.0	+ 0.8	- 0.9
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.7	4.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.6	1.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	84.3	83.6	85.0	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Mining	17.0	16.5	17.8	+ 0.5	- 0.8
Construction	5.0	5.2	5.3	- 0.2	- 0.3
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.7	6.7	7.3	0	- 0.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.4	23.4	22.4	0	+ 1.0
Wholesale Trade	6.5	6.6	6.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	16.9	16.8	15.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.8	2.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Food Stores	2.5	2.5	2.2	0	+ 0.3
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.2	10.0	9.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Services	18.3	18.3	18.0	0	+ 0.3
Government	10.1	9.7	10.4	+ 0.4	- 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during February stood at 88,100, an 800 increase from the previous month but a 900 decrease from the same period of time a year ago. Nonmanufacturing, especially mining was responsible for the majority of the increase. Manufacturing was responsible for a small percent of the increase. Most of the other industries have remained relatively stable and have shown little growth.

The economy in the Lafayette area is showing signs of recovery. This is evidenced by the fact that unemployment claims are down and the oil industry is starting to do some hiring.

The unemployment rate for the Lafayette LMA is expected to remain about the same for the coming months. The only noticeable increase may be in construction because of better weather.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Net Change From Jan. 1984	Net Change From Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.9	59.0	61.2	- 0.1	- 2.3
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.2	10.0	0	- 0.8
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	9.1	0	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.6	8.2	0	- 0.6
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.7	49.8	51.2	- 0.1	- 1.5
Mining	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Construction	4.8	4.8	6.6	0	- 1.8
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.9	14.0	13.9	- 0.1	0
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.3	3.2	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	10.6	10.7	10.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.2	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.0	0	+ 0.3
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.8	0	+ 0.2
Services	10.9	10.9	10.6	0	+ 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.5	10.6	0	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Employment on area nonfarm payrolls fell 100 below the January level to the current estimate of 58,900. Nonmanufacturing garnered all of this loss. When the current nonfarm level is compared with the year ago level, a 2,300 job loss is noted. Two thirds of this loss appeared in the nonmanufacturing sector.

Manufacturing employment was unchanged from January but fell 800 below the January 1983 total. Nondurable goods sustained most of the loss.

The nonfactory job total dropped 100 below the mid-January level and this was centered in retail trade. During the past 12 month period nonmanufacturing employment fell by 1,500 and construction took most of this loss.

The employment outlook is cloudy for the immediate future, but unemployment may edge downward for reasons which are not readily apparent.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Net Change From Jan. 1984	Net Change From Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.3	50.1	51.4	+ 0.2	- 1.1
MANUFACTURING	7.0	7.0	7.1	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.0	0	+ 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.8	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	4.8	4.8	5.1	0	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.1	3.4	0	- 0.3
NONMANUFACTURING	43.3	43.1	44.3	+ 0.2	- 1.0
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Construction	2.8	2.6	2.8	+ 0.2	0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.1	14.3	13.4	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Wholesale Trade	4.0	4.0	4.0	0	0
Retail Trade	10.1	10.3	9.4	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.9	2.8	- 0.1	0
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.8	2.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.0	3.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Services	9.9	10.0	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.0	4.1	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Government	9.2	9.0	10.8	+ 0.2	- 1.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total employment in Ouachita Parish rose to an estimated 50,300 during mid-February. This was 200 above the January estimate.

Manufacturing was unchanged over the month.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 43,300, was 200 above the January estimate. Construction rose by 200 as the weather began to moderate. Wholesale and retail trade followed the seasonal trend with a decline of 200 workers in retail. Finance, insurance and real estate rose by 100. Services declined by 100. Government rose by 200.

Employment is expected to continue to rise slowly while unemployment declines slightly.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Net Change From Jan. 1984	Net Change From Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	505.0	505.2	499.6	- 0.2	+ 5.4
MANUFACTURING	39.0	39.2	41.8	- 0.2	- 2.8
Durable Goods	22.6	22.8	24.8	- 0.2	- 2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.4	0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.5	2.6	2.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	3.1	3.2	3.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	2.8	3.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Transportation Equipment	12.2	12.4	13.8	- 0.2	- 1.6
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.5	7.7	9.6	- 0.2	- 2.1
Other Durable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.9	0	- 0.5
Nondurable Goods	16.4	16.4	17.0	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	6.8	6.9	7.4	- 0.1	- 0.6
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.0	1.1	+ 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	466.0	466.0	457.8	0	+ 8.2
Mining	18.7	18.5	19.3	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Construction	32.4	31.7	27.9	+ 0.7	+ 4.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.8	46.8	47.8	0	- 1.0
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Water Transportation	16.2	16.3	16.5	- 0.1	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	128.5	129.4	124.9	- 0.9	+ 3.6
Wholesale Trade	34.1	34.6	35.0	- 0.5	- 0.9
Retail Trade	94.4	94.8	89.9	- 0.4	+ 4.5
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.5	31.6	31.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Services	123.3	122.9	122.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.8
Government	84.8	85.1	84.1	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Federal	15.0	15.1	14.6	- 0.1	+ 0.4
State	20.6	20.9	22.1	- 0.3	- 1.5
Local	49.2	49.1	47.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.8

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$396.06	$387.60	$345.60	41.0	40.0	38.4	$9.66	$9.69	$9.00
Durable Goods	412.27	405.60	354.00	40.9	40.0	37.7	10.08	10.14	9.39
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	418.30	382.45	364.23	44.5	40.6	42.7	9.40	9.42	8.53
Fabricated Metal Products	439.63	414.33	410.03	42.6	40.7	39.2	10.32	10.18	10.46
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	382.13	389.32	333.22	37.5	38.7	35.6	10.19	10.06	9.36
Nondurable Goods	373.19	362.40	333.38	41.1	40.0	39.5	9.08	9.06	8.44
Food & Kindred Products	317.19	326.70	294.28	39.5	39.6	41.1	8.03	8.25	7.16
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	190.11	173.00	124.80	36.7	34.6	30.0	5.18	5.00	4.16
Paper & Allied Products	379.90	388.58	306.46	44.8	47.1	39.8	8.48	8.25	7.70
Printing & Publishing	385.85	324.80	286.21	44.3	40.0	39.1	8.71	8.12	7.32
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	575.46	596.50	640.72	40.9	40.8	44.9	14.07	14.62	14.27

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 25,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in February tapered off to 505,000, down a slight 200 from January. Manufacturing was lowered by an overall decrease in the durable goods sector. Nonmanufacturing held steady as gains in construction, services, and mining offset decreases in other industry divisions.

Manufacturing employment in the New Orleans area totaled 39,000 in February, down 200 from last month. Decreases were reported throughout the food and kindred products industry, with the majority being in seafood processing. Ship and boatbuilding and repairing suffered losses mainly at the repair yards. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment has dropped 2,800.

Nonmanufacturing showed no total change, with increases in several industries offsetting decreases in others. Highlighting all endeavor was the great variety of work involving preparations for the 1984 World's Fair - both on and off the fair site. Construction added many workers. Mining pushed up, partly reflecting preparations for an increase in activity in the coming months when weather is better. Services gained, laregly in business services and private health services. Less favorably, wholesale trade moved down in both the durable goods and nondurable goods groups. Retail trade exhibited further seasonal downturns in general merchandise stores and apparel stores partly offset by a sizeable upturn in employment by eating and drinking places. Government was reduced mostly by a decrease in state government. Finance and insurance each displayed a general decrease. In transportation, a small downturn in water transportation was offset by a minor upturn in motor freight transportation.

Average weekly earnings for area production workers totaled $396.06 in February, $8.46 above last month. The increase was due to longer work schedules in both durable and nondurable goods. Average weekly hours increased by one hour and average hourly earnings decreased by three cents. Compared to one year ago, factory workers are earning an average $50.46 more a week.

Estimated unemployment in February decreased to 44,800, a level 3,000 below January. Seasonal factors and overall improvements in the national economy were partly responsible for this change. Current joblessness accounts for 8.5 percent of the labor force compared to 9.0 percent in January and 11.0 percent in February of last year. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 13,335. About 44.0 percent of the claimants were non-white; approximately 29.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is anticipated to show a substantial overall increase. Preparation for the 1984 World's Fair will continue to highlight all economic activity in the area. Construction is expected to add many more workers. Mining will benefit from better weather conditions and will hopefully increase activity considerably both onshore and offshore. Retail trade will be favored by shopping for the Easter season. Unemployment is predicted to decrease as employment increases.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Feb. 1984*	Jan. 1984**	Feb. 1983**	Net Change From Jan. 1984	Net Change From Feb. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	146.9	146.2	143.9	+ 0.7	+ 3.0
MANUFACTURING	24.5	24.1	22.5	+ 0.4	+ 2.0
Durable Goods	18.7	18.3	16.8	+ 0.4	+ 1.9
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.5	1.3	0	+ 0.2
Metals and Machinery	11.3	11.0	11.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.5	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	7.4	7.1	7.7	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Other Durable Goods	5.9	5.8	4.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.6
Nondurable Good	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.1	1.0	- 0.1	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.7	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	122.4	122.1	121.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
Mining	6.3	6.6	6.4	- 0.3	- 0.1
Construction	8.5	8.4	8.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.4	9.3	9.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	32.9	33.3	33.7	- 0.4	- 0.8
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.1	9.0	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	23.8	24.2	24.7	- 0.4	- 0.9
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.0	7.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Services	31.0	30.5	30.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.0
Government	26.2	26.0	26.3	+ 0.2	- 0.1

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**	Feb. '84*	Jan. '84**	Feb. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$406.43	$406.19	$375.47	41.6	42.4	40.2	$9.77	$9.58	$9.34
Lumber and Wood Products	171.23	187.43	228.72	40.1	42.5	42.2	4.27	4.41	5.42
Metals and Machinery	425.87	412.09	389.75	43.5	43.7	41.2	9.79	9.43	9.46
Food and Kindred Products	216.91	233.63	208.03	35.1	38.3	35.5	6.18	6.10	5.86
Printing and Publishing	248.85	243.07	237.06	30.2	28.1	28.7	8.24	8.65	8.26
Petroleum and Coal Products	559.68	593.62	500.50	45.8	47.3	46.3	12.22	12.55	10.81

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 17,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Shreveport area increased to 146,900, an increase of 700 during the past month, and 3,000 more than one year ago.

Total manufacturing employment is estimated as 24,500, a gain of 400 during the past month, and an increase of 2,000 from February, 1983. This employment gain occurred in the durable goods segment of manufacturing.

This area has an estimated 122,400 employed in nonmanufacturing, up 300 from the previous month, and 1,000 more than for February, 1983. During the past month, services employment shows the largest gain. Slight increases occurred in government, finance & real estate, transportation and public utilities, and construction. Most of this gain was eliminated by losses in mining and retail trade.

There are 17,700 production workers in the Shreveport area with average weekly earnings of $406.42, up from an average of $375.47 one year ago. Average weekly hours of 41.6 are nearly unchanged, down slightly from 42.4 last month, and above the year ago estimate of 40.2. The average hourly earnings increased to $9.77, up from $9.58 in January and $9.34 in February, 1983.

The total civilian labor force in the Shreveport area is 167,600, including 153,100 employed and 14,500 unemployed. The current unemployment rate is 8.7 percent, compared with 9.6 percent for last month and 13.0 percent for February, 1983. The national unemployment rate is 7.8 percent.

The economy of this area continues to show improvements. Total unemployment continues to move downward. Services and trade employment will receive an additional boost with the race track opening in April, and an increase in manufacturing employment is anticipated.

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LOUISIANA
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

MARCH 1984

RELEASE DATE:
APRIL 25, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY MARCH 1984				REVISED FEBRUARY 1984				REVISED MARCH 1983			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,896.0	1,722.8	173.2	9.1	1,896.0	1,703.9	192.1	10.1	1,897.2	1,656.8	240.4	12.7
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	77.0	69.8	7.2	9.3	77.0	69.0	8.0	10.4	75.8	66.1	9.7	12.7
Baton Rouge 2/	240.8	223.7	17.1	7.1	242.2	222.5	19.7	8.1	236.5	212.8	23.7	10.0
Lafayette 3/	96.5	90.7	5.8	6.0	96.0	89.6	6.4	6.7	96.8	88.9	7.9	8.1
Lake Charles 4/	75.6	65.4	10.2	13.6	76.1	65.2	10.9	14.4	77.3	66.0	11.3	14.7
Monroe 5/	57.5	52.4	5.1	8.9	58.8	53.0	5.8	9.9	60.4	53.0	7.4	12.3
New Orleans 6/	529.7	487.7	42.0	7.9	530.3	484.1	46.2	8.7	528.3	469.4	58.9	11.2
Shreveport 7/	168.8	155.4	13.4	7.9	168.3	153.4	14.9	8.9	168.4	147.8	20.6	12.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during March stood at 1,566,900, an increase of 4,400 workers above February's level and 15,200 above the comparable period a year ago. The state's nonmanufacturing employment increase was centered in construction, services and trade. The durable goods sector was responsible for most of the increase in manufacturing payrolls.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Durable goods employment for March, at 79,700, was 1,500 higher than last month but 800 lower than March a year ago. Decreased production of household furniture and of public building and related furniture accounted for the decline in furniture and fixtures employment. Pottery and related products was among the several segments of the stone, clay and glass products industry experiencing increased activity in March. Fabricated metal products employment edged upward due to increased need for ordnance and accessories. Machinery, except electrical, payrolls were up for the current month largely as a result of increased demand for engines and turbines and for construction and related machinery. More employees engaged in manufacturing communication equipment accounted for the higher level in electric and electronic equipment. Increased production of motor vehicles and equipment and of guided missiles, space vehicles and parts pushed the transportation equipment employment level above last month's figure. The instruments and related products segment and certain miscellaneous manufacturing industries were responsible for the other durable goods upswing.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for March amounted to 97,500, an increase of 200 above last month's level, but a drop of 1,100 from March of last year. A dropoff in the production of paperboard and certain converted paper products accounted for the cutback in paper and allied products employment. Increased activity at newspapers caused printing and publishing employment to rise slightly in March. Employee additions in the industrial organic chemicals segment were responsible for the increase in chemicals and allied products payrolls. Increased production of refined petroleum resulted in a higher employment level for the petroleum and coal products industry. Other nondurable goods payrolls slipped below the previous level as both textile mill products and rubber and miscellaneous products employment fell.

Nonmanufacturing employment for March, at 1,389,700, was up by 2,700 over February's level and 17,100 higher than March a year ago. A decrease in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas was responsible for the lower employment level in mining this month. Employment in construction was up as a result of increased business throughout most of the construction industry. Decreased need for marine cargo handling was primary in forcing transportation and public utilities below last month's figure. Trade employment moved up due to more business for general merchandise, apparel and accessories stores and for certain miscellaneous retail trade establishments. Among the segments most instrumental in the higher payroll level exhibited for services in March were hotels and other lodging places, personnel supply services, and educational services. Government payrolls for March were lower than February's as a result of downturns in federal government, except defense, and in local education. Finance, insurance and real estate employment edged upward for the current month.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 122,500 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $421.17 in February to $418.84 in March, a decrease of $2.33 but an increase of $34.32 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were eight cents lower in March than last month, but $0.39 more than March of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.8 for the current month, up by 0.1 hours from February's figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for March amounted to 173,200, a decrease of 18,900 from the February level of 192,100. The unemployment rate for March was 9.1 percent compared to 10.1 percent last month and 12.7 percent in March of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for March was 8.1 percent compared to 8.4 percent in February and 10.8 percent in March a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force was estimated at 1,896,000, no change from February's level. The estimated total employment for Louisiana moved from 1,703,900 in February to 1,722,800 in March, an increase of 18,900.

Unemployment should decline until schools begin the summer vacation period when youths seek employment for the summer. Nonmanufacturing segments such as trade and services are expected to show employment growth over the next month or two. Manufacturing employment may fall slightly next month.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Net Change from Feb. 1984	Net Change from Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,566.9	1,562.5	1,551.7	+ 4.4	+ 15.2
MINING AND QUARRYING	78.6	80.0	82.9	- 1.4	- 4.3
Oil and Gas Extraction	75.4	76.8	79.8	- 1.4	- 4.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.2	3.2	3.1	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	113.9	111.8	111.1	+ 2.1	+ 2.8
MANUFACTURING	177.2	175.5	179.1	+ 1.7	- 1.9
Durable Goods	79.7	78.2	80.5	+ 1.5	- 0.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.1	13.1	12.8	0	+ 0.3
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.8	0.7	- 0.1	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.4	7.2	7.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.4	3.8	0	- 0.4
Fabricated Metal Products	13.3	13.2	13.9	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.7	9.5	10.3	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Electric & Electronic Equipment	9.5	8.7	8.3	+ 0.8	+ 1.2
Transportation Equipment	20.3	20.1	21.2	+ 0.2	- 0.9
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.3	2.2	2.3	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	97.5	97.3	98.6	+ 0.2	- 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	21.5	21.5	21.9	0	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.9	8.9	7.8	0	+ 1.1
Paper & Allied Products	11.6	11.7	11.6	- 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	9.9	9.8	9.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Chemicals & Allied Products	29.3	29.1	30.7	+ 0.2	- 1.4
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.5	12.4	13.1	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Petroleum Refining	11.9	11.7	12.4	+ 0.2	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.8	3.9	3.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	113.4	114.2	119.8	- 0.8	- 6.4
Railroad Transportation	7.1	7.1	7.0	0	+ 0.1
Transportation, ex. Railroads	66.3	67.2	69.8	- 0.9	- 3.5
Communications & Public Utilities	40.0	39.9	43.0	+ 0.1	- 3.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	368.9	368.0	356.4	+ 0.9	+ 12.5
Wholesale Trade	94.6	94.6	94.1	0	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	274.3	273.4	262.3	+ 0.9	+ 12.0
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	56.5	56.1	54.9	+ 0.4	+ 1.6
Food Stores	50.6	50.4	49.2	+ 0.2	+ 1.4
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.9	30.9	29.9	0	+ 1.0
Eating & Drinking Places	84.4	84.5	78.7	- 0.1	+ 5.7
Other Retail Trade	51.9	51.5	49.6	+ 0.4	+ 2.3
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.6	83.5	81.1	+ 0.1	+ 2.5
Banking	27.8	27.8	27.1	0	+ 0.7
SERVICES	311.5	309.2	303.0	+ 2.3	+ 8.5
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.1	21.7	21.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
Other Services	289.4	287.5	281.9	+ 1.9	+ 7.5
GOVERNMENT	319.8	320.3	318.3	- 0.5	+ 1.5
Federal	34.2	34.4	33.9	- 0.2	+ 0.3
State and Local	285.6	285.9	284.4	- 0.3	+ 1.2
State	102.2	102.1	103.3	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Local	183.4	183.8	181.1	- 0.4	+ 2.3

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$418.84	$421.17	$384.52	41.8	41.7	39.6	$10.02	$10.10	$9.71
Durable Goods	386.88	390.73	357.80	41.6	41.7	39.8	9.30	9.37	8.99
Lumber & Wood Products	310.76	319.98	277.06	38.7	39.7	41.6	8.03	8.06	6.66
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	373.92	379.48	367.08	41.5	42.4	42.0	9.01	8.95	8.74
Fabricated Metal Products	406.80	391.19	383.40	45.1	42.8	40.4	9.02	9.14	9.49
Machinery, ex. Electrical	406.43	388.01	374.94	41.6	40.8	40.1	9.77	9.51	9.35
Electric & Electronic Equip.	430.02	457.76	383.94	42.2	44.1	38.9	10.19	10.38	9.87
Transportation Equipment	422.50	433.48	386.51	40.2	40.1	39.2	10.51	10.81	9.86
Nondurable Goods	447.49	448.69	412.12	41.9	41.7	39.4	10.68	10.76	10.46
Food & Kindred Products	284.70	286.94	247.88	39.0	39.2	36.4	7.30	7.32	6.81
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	206.51	182.67	152.68	38.6	36.1	34.7	5.35	5.06	4.40
Paper & Allied Products	504.14	482.51	487.34	43.8	42.4	42.9	11.51	11.38	11.36
Printing & Publishing	309.96	307.84	316.09	37.3	37.0	37.1	8.31	8.32	8.52
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	628.49	633.91	574.67	42.9	43.3	42.1	14.65	14.64	13.65
Petroleum & Coal Products	605.33	658.56	635.62	46.6	49.0	46.6	12.99	13.44	13.64
Petroleum Refining	610.37	668.02	652.37	46.7	49.3	46.3	13.07	13.55	14.09
MINING	552.57	539.60	516.19	47.8	46.8	45.6	11.56	11.53	11.32
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	473.96	466.36	439.99	40.2	40.1	38.8	11.79	11.63	11.34
BANKING	240.00	238.50	214.76	38.4	37.5	36.9	6.25	6.36	5.82

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 122,500 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 101,100 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY MARCH 1984				REVISED FEBRUARY 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	23,825	21,250	2,575	10.8	23,625	20,850	2,775	11.8
Oakdale (Allen)	6,375	5,100	1,275	20.0	6,400	4,975	1,425	22.2
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,400	9,050	1,350	13.1	10,475	8,875	1,600	15.3
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,850	10,500	1,350	11.3	11,775	10,300	1,475	12.5
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,100	6,475	625	8.7	7,025	6,350	675	9.5
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,700	4,200	500	10.5	4,650	4,075	575	12.4
Cameron (Cameron)	4,625	4,225	400	8.8	4,600	4,175	425	9.1
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,350	5,675	675	10.6	6,300	5,575	725	11.5
Homer (Claiborne)	7,300	6,750	550	7.4	7,250	6,675	575	7.9
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,025	7,900	1,125	12.4	8,975	7,725	1,250	14.1
Mansfield (DeSoto)	11,200	10,000	1,200	10.8	11,075	9,700	1,375	12.4
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	4,850	3,975	875	17.9	4,750	3,800	950	20.2
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,700	7,100	600	7.8	7,575	6,925	650	8.5
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	13,900	12,125	1,775	12.8	13,875	11,900	1,975	14.2
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,625	7,325	1,300	15.2	8,650	7,150	1,500	17.2
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,000	31,850	4,150	11.5	36,200	31,500	4,700	13.0
Plaquemine (Iberville)	14,900	13,450	1,450	9.7	14,850	13,200	1,650	11.2
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,125	5,675	450	7.3	6,050	5,550	500	8.4
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	12,850	11,150	1,700	13.3	12,750	10,900	1,850	14.6
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	37,900	34,025	3,875	10.2	37,900	33,675	4,225	11.2
Jena (LaSalle)	5,950	5,450	500	8.4	5,900	5,325	575	9.8
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,500	20,650	850	4.0	21,225	20,275	950	4.5
Tallulah (Madison)	5,375	4,575	800	14.9	5,300	4,375	925	17.3
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,200	11,600	1,600	12.1	13,075	11,375	1,700	12.9
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,175	15,750	1,425	8.2	17,050	15,475	1,575	9.2
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,375	13,350	1,025	7.1	14,200	13,075	1,125	7.9
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	12,875	11,725	1,150	8.9	12,750	11,375	1,375	10.9
Coushatta (Red River)	4,150	3,800	350	8.4	4,125	3,725	400	9.7
Rayville (Richland)	8,000	7,000	1,000	12.5	7,925	6,775	1,150	14.4
Many (Sabine)	8,000	7,325	675	8.4	7,975	7,225	750	9.5
Norco (St. Charles)	21,775	19,775	2,000	9.2	21,700	19,475	2,225	10.3
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,225	3,875	350	8.2	4,175	3,800	375	9.1
Lutcher (St. James)	10,950	9,775	1,175	10.8	10,750	9,450	1,300	12.0
Reserve (St. John)	17,375	15,575	1,800	10.3	17,400	15,375	2,025	11.6
Opelousas (St. Landry)	34,075	28,825	5,250	15.4	33,700	28,375	5,325	15.8
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	19,075	16,675	2,400	12.5	19,075	16,375	2,700	14.1
Morgan City (St. Mary)	32,325	28,375	3,950	12.2	32,600	28,125	4,475	13.7
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	33,700	29,175	4,525	13.4	33,750	28,625	5,125	15.2
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,000	2,600	400	13.1	2,975	2,500	475	15.7
Houma (Terrebonne)	45,325	40,675	4,650	10.2	45,450	40,200	5,250	11.6
Farmerville (Union)	7,650	6,825	825	10.7	7,625	6,725	900	11.8
Abbeville (Vermilion)	24,350	21,675	2,675	11.0	24,175	21,250	2,925	12.1
Leesville (Vernon)	12,150	10,725	1,425	11.7	12,025	10,500	1,525	12.7
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,425	12,425	2,000	13.9	14,450	12,225	2,225	15.4
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,200	3,225	975	23.1	4,150	3,125	1,025	24.9
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,725	3,475	250	6.7	3,550	3,250	300	8.3
Winnfield (Winn)	5,575	5,000	575	10.1	5,475	4,850	625	11.3

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Net Change From Feb. 1984	Net Change From Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.2	54.0	52.6	+ 0.2	+ 1.6
MANUFACTURING	5.3	5.3	4.9	0	+ 0.4
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.1	0	+ 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.5	0	+ 0.4
NONMANUFACTURING	48.9	48.7	47.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Construction	3.4	3.2	3.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.3	12.3	11.9	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	9.5	9.5	9.2	0	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.1	0	+ 0.2
Other Retail Trade	4.1	4.1	4.1	0	0
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services & Mining	11.8	11.8	11.5	0	+ 0.3
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.0	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.6	6.5	0	+ 0.1
Government	16.0	16.0	15.9	0	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.9	5.9	5.9	0	0
Local	7.3	7.3	7.2	0	+ 0.1

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area during March was estimated at 54,200. This employment estimate is 200 over last month and 1,600 above this month a year ago.

Total manufacturing employment unchanged since the previous month, has increased 400 from March of last year. The increase was in nondurable goods.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing for March increased 200 since last month. The increase was in construction and was an estimated seasonal increase. Compared to this month a year ago, employment in the nonmanufacturing industries has increased 1,200. There were gains in each major segment, except transportation, communication, and utilities.

Total employment should increase slightly during the next thirty days with the number of unemployed decreasing. These conditions will depend upon the weather and Easter sales.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Net Change From Feb. 1984	Net Change From Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	208.3	208.4	204.1	- 0.1	+ 4.2
MANUFACTURING	21.8	21.8	22.7	0	- 0.9
Durable Goods	4.1	4.0	3.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.9	0.9	0.8	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.7	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	17.7	17.8	18.8	- 0.1	- 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.0	13.1	14.2	- 0.1	- 1.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	186.5	186.6	181.4	- 0.1	+ 5.1
Mining	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Construction	20.4	19.8	20.9	+ 0.6	- 0.5
Transportation and Public Utilities	10.1	10.1	10.3	0	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	49.5	49.9	46.2	- 0.4	+ 3.3
Wholesale Trade	11.5	11.4	11.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	38.0	38.5	35.1	- 0.5	+ 2.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.3	12.3	12.1	0	+ 0.2
Services	39.1	39.0	38.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Government	54.2	54.6	52.8	- 0.4	+ 1.4

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$486.22	$492.46	$520.83	41.7	42.6	41.6	$11.66	$11.56	$12.52
Petro-Chemicals	655.85	651.94	626.93	45.2	45.4	44.4	14.51	14.36	14.12

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 11,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 208,300 during March, down 100 from February's revised estimate of 208,400 and up 4,200 over the total for last March. Manufacturing had no change and nonmanufacturing was down 100 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing, at 21,800 in March, was unchanged from February's revised estimate. Durable goods were up due to a seasonal increase in blast furnances, steel works, and rolling and finishing mills. Nondurable goods were down due to less business in industrial organic chemicals.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 186,500 during March was down 100 from February's revised estimate. Mining, transporatation and public utilities, and finance, insurance, and real estate had no change during the current period. Construction was up due to more business in general building contractors-nonresidential buildings, electrical works, and miscellaneous special trade contractors. Wholesale trade was up due to more orders for machinery, equipment and supplies while retail trade was down due to seasonal adjustments in all major groups except apparel and accessory stores.

Services were up due to increases in elementary and secondary schools and in social services, not elsewhere classified. Government was down due to reductions in the administration of environmental quality programs and in public hospitals.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 11,700 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $486,22 in March, down $6.24 from February's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 0.9 hours and average hourly earnings were up $0.10. Less overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 223,700 during March, up 1,200 over February's revised estimate and up 10,900 over March of last year. Unemployment at 17,100 was down 2,600 from last month's revised estimate. March's unemployment rate at 7.1 percent is down from the revised 8.1 percent for last month. The state's revised February rate of 10.1 percent dropped to 9.1 percent in March. The local civilian labor force totaled 240,800 during March, down 1,400 from February's revised estimate and up 4,300 over the total for last March.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,100 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 533 applicants in jobs during March.

The consumer price index for February, 1984 for all urban consumers was 306.6 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 303.3 using base period 1967=100.

Unemployment and the unemployment rate is expected to drop some during the coming month due to seasonal changes.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Net Change From Feb. 1984	Net Change From Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.8	88.1	89.6	+ 0.7	- 0.8
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	85.0	84.3	85.7	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Mining	17.6	17.0	17.6	+ 0.6	0
Construction	4.9	5.0	5.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.7	6.7	7.2	0	- 0.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.3	23.4	22.5	- 0.1	+ 0.8
Wholesale Trade	6.5	6.5	6.6	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	16.8	16.9	15.9	- 0.1	+ 0.9
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.6	2.7	2.3	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Food Stores	2.5	2.5	2.3	0	+ 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.2	10.2	9.7	0	+ 0.5
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Services	18.4	18.3	18.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Government	10.3	10.1	11.0	+ 0.2	- 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Lafayette's nonagricultural employment in March stood at 88,800, an increase of 700 over the previous month, and 800 less than the same period a year ago.The increase over the previous month was in the nonmanufacturing sector. Manufacturing remained the same.

The largest increase in the nonmanufacturing segment was in mining. There was an increase of 600 over the previous month.

Construction dipped slightly with a 100 decrease from the previous month.

Other areas of estimated employment remained relatively stable.

From all indications employment is on the upswing in the oil industry. Many experts caution that it will be a gradual increase.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Net Change From Feb. 1984	Net Change From Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.9	58.8	61.3	+ 0.1	- 2.4
MANUFACTURING	9.4	9.2	9.8	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Durable Goods	0.7	0.8	0.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.4	0.5	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.7	8.4	9.0	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.9	7.6	8.1	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.5	49.6	51.5	- 0.1	- 2.0
Mining	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Construction	4.7	4.8	6.7	- 0.1	- 2.0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.8	13.8	14.1	0	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.3	3.2	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	10.5	10.5	10.9	0	- 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.3	3.1	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	2.9	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Services	10.8	10.9	10.8	- 0.1	0
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.5	10.5	0	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment edged upward 100 to the current estimate of 58,900. All of the increase occurred in the manufacturing sector. The current estimate falls 2400 workers less than the March 1983 level. The nonmanufacturing sector suffered this loss.

Manufacturing employment increased 200 over the mid-February total. An increase of 300 in nondurable goods was reduced by a loss of 100 in durable goods. The 300 gain in nondurable goods is probably temporary since it was brought on by a "turnaround" type situation.

Employment on nonmanufacturing payrolls dipped 100 below the month ago level and this occurred in construction. All other nonfactory industry groups remained unchanged. The current nonmanufacturing estimate reflects a decline of 2000 jobs during the 12 month period beginning in March 1983.

The outlook is for little change in employment but unemployment may edge downward during the next 30 days.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Feb. 1984	Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	49.5	50.3	51.5	- 0.8	- 2.0
MANUFACTURING	6.8	6.9	7.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.0	0	+ 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.8	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.7	5.1	- 0.1	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.9	3.0	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
NONMANUFACTURING	42.7	43.4	44.4	- 0.7	- 1.7
Mining	0.5	0.6	0.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	2.5	2.7	2.9	- 0.2	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.0	14.2	13.6	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	4.0	4.0	4.0	0	0
Retail Trade	10.0	10.2	9.6	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.8	2.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	+ 0.2
Services	10.1	10.0	10.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.2	4.0	4.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Government	8.9	9.2	10.7	- 0.3	- 1.8

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by 800 to an estimated 49,500 during mid March.

Manufacturing declined by 100 to an estimated 6,800. The loss was in nondurable goods.

Nonmanufacturing was down by an estimated 700. Government experienced the largest decline, 300 workers, as it dropped to 42,700. Inclement weather was a major factor in the decline of construction as it reached a level of 2,500, down 200 from the February estimate. Mining was down by 100, to an estimated 500 workers. Wholesale and retail trade was down by 200, the loss being in retail trade. Services was the only segment with a gain in employment, 100 workers to an estimated 10,100. All other segments were unchanged.

Employment should begin an upward movement over the next 30 to 60 days, while unemployment is expected to continue a downward movement.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Net Change From Feb. 1984	Net Change From Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	506.3	505.5	502.0	+ 0.8	+ 4.3
MANUFACTURING	39.1	39.0	41.2	+ 0.1	- 2.1
Durable Goods	22.7	22.6	24.4	+ 0.1	- 1.7
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.6	2.5	2.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.1	3.3	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	2.9	3.0	0	- 0.1
Transportation Equipment	12.2	12.3	13.7	- 0.1	- 1.5
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.5	7.6	9.3	- 0.1	- 1.8
Other Durable Goods	1.3	1.3	1.6	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	16.4	16.4	16.8	0	- 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	6.8	6.8	7.2	0	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	467.2	466.5	460.8	+ 0.7	+ 6.4
Mining	18.4	18.5	19.2	- 0.1	- 0.8
Construction	32.9	32.5	29.0	+ 0.4	+ 3.9
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.5	46.7	47.7	- 0.2	- 1.2
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Water Transportation	16.0	16.2	16.5	- 0.2	- 0.5
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	129.3	128.5	125.7	+ 0.8	+ 3.6
Wholesale Trade	34.5	34.5	34.6	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	94.8	94.0	91.1	+ 0.8	+ 3.7
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.4	31.5	31.7	- 0.1	- 0.3
Services	123.9	123.9	123.3	0	+ 0.6
Government	84.8	84.9	84.2	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Federal	14.9	15.1	14.8	- 0.2	+ 0.1
State	20.7	20.6	22.0	+ 0.1	- 1.3
Local	49.2	49.2	47.4	0	+ 1.8

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$396.47	$395.60	$346.50	41.0	40.7	38.5	$9.67	$9.72	$9.00
Durable Goods	417.66	414.12	369.26	41.6	40.8	39.2	10.04	10.15	9.42
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	402.12	418.69	371.42	43.1	44.4	42.4	9.33	9.43	8.76
Fabricated Metal Products	467.17	446.90	397.31	46.3	42.2	38.8	10.09	10.59	10.24
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	382.76	381.90	359.46	38.2	37.7	38.2	10.02	10.13	9.41
Nondurable Goods	367.03	369.87	312.38	40.2	40.6	37.5	9.13	9.11	8.33
Food & Kindred Products	294.86	319.59	263.67	37.9	39.8	37.4	7.78	8.03	7.05
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	197.26	189.59	124.99	35.8	36.6	28.8	5.51	5.18	4.34
Paper & Allied Products	413.08	372.52	320.31	47.7	44.4	40.7	8.66	8.39	7.87
Printing & Publishing	381.38	379.85	292.79	42.9	42.3	39.3	8.89	8.98	7.45
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	637.69	580.37	564.71	43.0	40.9	42.3	14.83	14.19	13.35

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 25,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in March pushed up to 506,300, a level 800 above February. Manufacturing showed only small changes. Nonmanufacturing was boosted mainly by gains in retail trade and construction.

Total employment in manufacturing was 39,100 in March, 100 above last month. Stone, clay and glass products and fabricated metal products edged up in the durable goods sector. Ship and boatbuilding and repairing decreased due to a strike affecting some local ship repair firms. Additional hiring at some area shipyards offset some of the decrease due to the strike. The nondurable goods sector held steady over the month. Manufacturing employment is down 1,700 compared to this time last year.

Nonmanufacturing registered an overall increase of 700. Construction activity was highlighted by the acceleration of work involving preparation for the 1984 World's Fair. Retail trade exhibited a gain in employment by eating and drinking places, general merchandise stores, miscellaneous stores, and automotive dealers and service stations. Wholesale trade displayed no total change. In services, decreases in private health services and miscellaneous services offset an increase in the hotel-motel industry and a normal seasonal upturn in private educational services. More unfavorable were changes in other industry divisions. Mining tapered off. Water transporation eased down to the lowest level in several months. Motor freight transporation reduced employment. Finance reflected layoffs by banking. Government employment decreased as the federal sector made local downward adjustments.

Area production workers earned an average $396.47 a week in March, $0.87 above last month's average and $49.97 above the March average last year. The drop of five cents an hour in average hourly pay was offset by the increase of 18 minutes in average weekly hours.

Estimated unemployment in March moved down to 42,000, a level 4,200 below February. An increase in employment was mostly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 7.9 percent of the labor force compared to 8.7 percent in February and 11.2 percent in March of last year. The unemployment rate of 7.9 percent in March 1984 was the lowest in this labor market area since December 1981. For the first time in more than a year, this area's rate was lower than the comparable national rate, which in March 1984 was 8.1 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 12,955. Approximately 43.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 30.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show a large overall gain. All economic activity in the area will be highlighted by the opening of the 1984 World's Fair. Many segments of the economy are anticipated to benefit greatly from the fair, especially services and trade. Mining will be favored by better weather conditions and will hopefully increase activity both onshore and offshore. Unemployment will reflect the pre-summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force. Hopefully, the World's Fair and industries benefitting from it will absorb many of the jobless and bring an overall reduction in unemployment.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Mar. 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Net Change From Feb. 1984	Net Change From Mar. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	148.4	147.2	145.2	+ 1.2	+ 3.2
MANUFACTURING	24.9	24.7	22.5	+ 0.2	+ 2.4
Durable Goods	19.0	18.9	16.8	+ 0.1	+ 2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Metals and Machinery	11.5	11.5	11.2	0	+ 0.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.5	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	7.6	7.6	7.7	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	6.0	5.9	4.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
Nondurable Good	5.9	5.8	5.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.5	1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	123.5	122.5	122.7	+ 1.0	+ 0.8
Mining	6.2	6.4	6.4	- 0.2	- 0.2
Construction	8.8	8.5	8.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.3	9.4	9.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	33.5	32.8	33.8	+ 0.7	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.0	9.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	24.3	23.8	24.8	+ 0.5	- 0.5
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.1	7.9	0	+ 0.2
Services	31.4	31.0	30.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.9
Government	26.2	26.3	26.4	- 0.1	- 0.2

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$395.09	415.75	366.81	40.9	41.7	39.4	$9.66	$9.97	$9.31
Lumber and Wood Products	217.49	213.19	225.74	36.7	37.6	40.6	5.79	5.67	5.56
Metals and Machinery	403.33	427.77	376.51	42.5	44.1	39.8	9.49	9.70	9.46
Food and Kindred Products	211.25	218.24	206.22	33.8	35.2	34.6	6.25	6.20	5.96
Printing and Publishing	252.36	248.85	238.26	29.9	30.2	28.5	8.44	8.24	8.36
Petroleum and Coal Products	528.36	559.68	501.27	44.4	45.8	46.2	11.90	12.22	10.85

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 18,300 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Shreveport area has 148,400 in nonagricultural wage and salary employment, compared to 147,200 for last month, and 145,200 for one year ago. Nonmanufacturing employment increased 1,000 during the past month, and 800 more than the year ago figure.

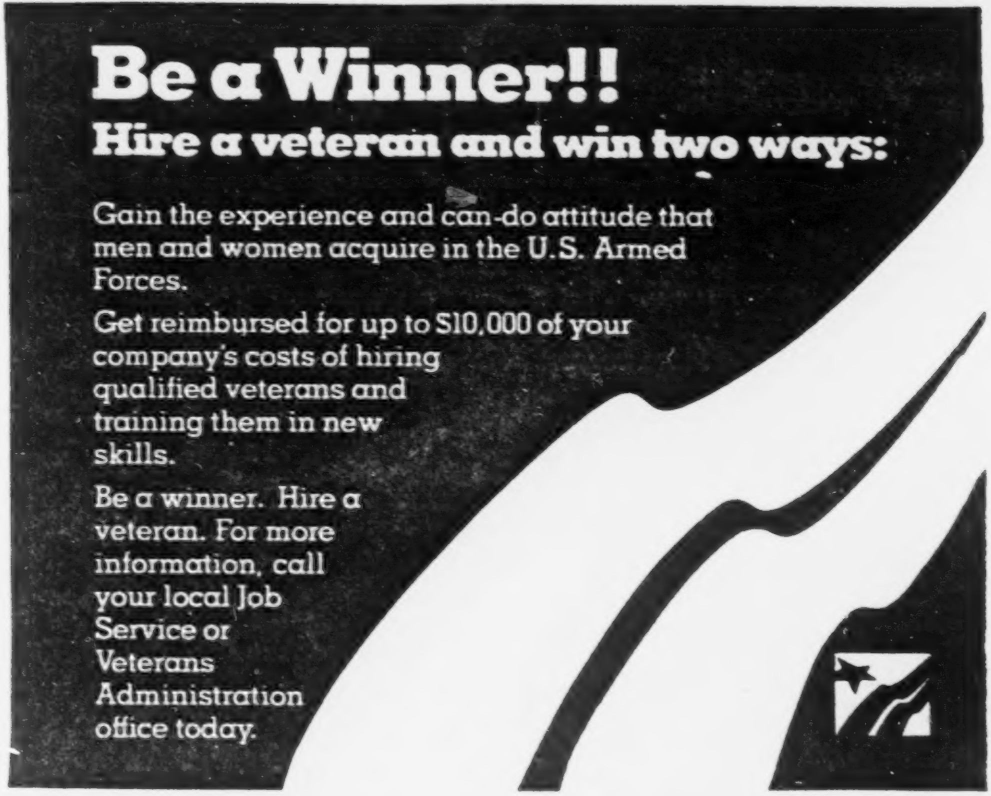
The manufacturing employment total for this area is 24,900, an increase of 200 from the previous month, and 2,400 more than one year ago. During the past year, 2,200 of the 2,400 total were added to durable goods manufacturing payroll.

The Shreveport area has an estimated 123,500 in nonmanufacturing employment, up from 122,500 in February and 122,700 for March, 1983. Employment losses during the past month in mining, transportation and public utilities and government were more than offset by gains in construction, trade, and services.

A total of 18,300 production workers had average weekly earnings of $395.09, compared with $366.81 one year ago. The average weekly hours of 40.9 are up from 39.4 last year, while the average hourly earnings of $9.66 have increased from $9.31 in March, 1983.

The Shreveport area has a civilian labor force of 168,800, including 155,400 employed and 13,400 unemployed. The unemployment rate for this area is 7.9 percent, down from the revised February rate of 8.9 percent.

The employment outlook for this area is good. An increase is expected in durable goods manufacturing and in services employment. This growth will be reflected in employment estimates for April and May. Unemployment is expected to move below the present level during the next two months.



Be a Winner!!

Hire a veteran and win two ways:

Gain the experience and can-do attitude that men and women acquire in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Get reimbursed for up to $10,000 of your company's costs of hiring qualified veterans and training them in new skills.

Be a winner. Hire a veteran. For more information, call your local Job Service or Veterans Administration office today.

You can receive up to $10,000 if you train and hire an eligible Vietnam-era or Korean conflict veteran through the provisions of the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act of 1983 (Public Law 98-77).

The training programs you design should generally be no less than 6 months, except that a program of between 3 and 6 months could be approved under certain circumstances. To qualify, your program must offer training in:

- an occupation in a growth industry; or
- an occupation requiring new technical skills; or
- an occupation for which demand for labor exceeds the supply.

You must certify that you plan to hire the veteran upon the completion of the training. Adequate facilities for training must be available; wages and benefits must be no less than those normally paid, and training cannot be for a position for which the veteran already qualifies.

Your reimbursement will be 50 percent of the starting wage up to a maximum of $10,000 per veteran. Payments will be made at the end of each three-month period of training or can be monthly in the case of employers with fewer than 75 employees.

You may contact the nearest local State Job Service Office or VA Regional Office for details, applications and assistance.

6/7/84 S3320-2 A

LOUISIANA
LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

APRIL 1984

RELEASE DATE:
May 25, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY APRIL 1984				REVISED MARCH 1984				REVISED APRIL 1983			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,915.8	[illegible]	169.9	8.9	1,897.5	1,722.5	175.0	9.2	1,908.8	1,672.5	236.3	12.4
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	77.3	[illegible]	7.1	9.1	76.8	69.6	7.2	9.4	76.6	67.2	[illegible]	[illegible]
Baton Rouge 2/	243.1	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.1	241.2	223.7	17.5	7.2	238.5	214.4	24.1	10.1
Lafayette 3/	96.4	[illegible]	5.6	5.8	96.4	90.6	5.8	6.1	96.8	89.0	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lake Charles 4/	75.7	[illegible]	9.9	13.1	75.9	65.5	10.4	13.7	78.2	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.4
Monroe 5/	58.7	[illegible]	5.0	8.5	57.6	52.5	5.1	8.9	60.5	53.6	6.9	11.4
New Orleans 6/	532.6	[illegible]	41.4	7.8	530.0	487.5	42.5	8.0	529.3	471.1	58.2	11.0
Shreveport 7/	170.5	[illegible]	12.9	7.6	169.5	156.0	13.5	8.0	169.6	149.5	20.1	11.8

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,569,600 for April, an increase of 5,000 workers above March's level and 13,700 above the comparable period a year ago. More business for retail trade establishments was the major force in this month's increase in nonmanufacturing payrolls. The durable goods sector contributed most to the upturn in manufacturing employment.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing increased by 1,400 workers in the March to April reporting period. An increase in activity at sawmills and planing mills and at logging camps was responsible for the upturn in the lumber and wood products industry. Stone, clay and glass products employment moved up in March as a result of increased demand for concrete, gypsum and plaster products. Primary metal industries employment edged higher due to more activity at iron and steel foundries and increased production of blast furnace and basic steel products. Decreased need for metal cans and shipping containers, fabricated structural metal products, ordnance and accessories, and certain miscellaneous fabricated metal products contributed to the lower employment level in fabricated metal products. Machinery, except electrical, payrolls were up as a result of increased production of construction and related machinery, special industry machinery, and certain miscellaneous machinery. Employment in the electric and electronic industry was higher as the demand for communication equipment increased. Increased activity in the motor vehicles and equipment industry and at the state's shipyards accounted for the increase in transportation equipment employment.

Estimated employment in nondurable goods for April was 400 higher than in the prior month but 700 lower than the comparable figure a year earlier. Food and kindred products employment went up in April due largely to a seasonal increase in seafood canning. Contributing to the higher employment level in the apparel and textile products industry was the increased output of men's and boy's furnishings and of certain miscellaneous fabricated textile products. A decrease in petroleum and coal products industry employment was centered in the petroleum refining segment. Paper and allied products and chemicals and allied products both edged upward for the current month.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,390,700 for April, was 1,200 above last month's level of 1,389,500 and 11,900 higher than April a year ago. Mining employment was down as a result of a slowdown in the exploration for oil and gas. A downturn in general building construction was instrumental in the lower construction payrolls for April. Port activity increased during April, which was largely responsible for the higher transportation and public utilities employment for the current month. More business for eating and drinking places was instrumental in the higher payrolls for trade. Services employment was up as a result of increased business for hotels and other lodging places. Government employment was down mainly as a result of a drop in the number of state government employees. Finance, insurance and real estate employment edged up slightly in April.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 123,400 production workers in manufacturing increased from $423.61 in March to $425.54 in April, an increase of $1.93 and an increase of $40.60 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were five cents lower in April than last month, but $0.29 more than April of last year. Weekly hours averaged 42.3 for the current month, up by 0.4 hours from March's figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for April amounted to 169,900, a decrease of 5,100 from the March level of 175,000. The unemployment rate for April was 8.9 percent, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points below last month's rate and 3.5 percentage points lower than April of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for April was 7.6 percent compared to 8.1 percent in March and 10.0 percent in April of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force increased from 1,897,500 in March to 1,915,800 in April, an increase of 18,300. Total employment, at 1,745,900, was up by 23,400 from last month and 73,400 higher than April a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate will probably remain close to the current level for the next month. Manufacturing employment may increase slightly due in part to seasonal influences. Within the nonmanufacturing segment, trade and services should experience some increase.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change from Mar. 1984	Net Change from Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,569.6	1,566.6	1,555.9	+ 3.0	+13.7
MINING AND QUARRYING	77.2	78.6	80.7	- 1.4	- 3.5
Oil and Gas Extraction	74.1	75.4	77.5	- 1.3	- 3.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.1	3.2	3.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	113.4	113.7	111.0	- 0.3	+ 2.4
MANUFACTURING	178.9	177.1	177.1	+ 1.8	+ 1.8
Durable Goods	81.1	79.7	78.6	+ 1.4	+ 2.5
Lumber and Wood Products	13.4	13.2	12.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.7	0.6	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.6	7.4	7.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.4	3.5	+ 0.1	0
Fabricated Metal Products	13.2	13.3	13.6	- 0.1	- 0.4
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.8	9.7	10.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Electric & Electronic Equipment	9.8	9.5	8.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.5
Transportation Equipment	20.8	20.2	20.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.3
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	97.8	97.4	98.5	+ 0.4	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	21.7	21.5	22.1	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.1	8.9	7.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Paper & Allied Products	11.7	11.6	11.7	+ 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.7	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	29.4	29.3	30.3	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.3	12.5	12.9	- 0.2	- 0.6
Petroleum Refining	11.7	11.8	12.2	- 0.1	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	114.2	113.4	118.2	+ 0.8	- 4.0
Railroad Transportation	7.2	7.1	7.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.1	66.4	68.4	+ 0.7	- 1.3
Communications & Public Utilities	39.9	39.9	42.8	0	- 2.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	372.1	369.6	362.4	+ 2.5	+ 9.7
Wholesale Trade	95.1	95.0	94.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Retail Trade	277.0	274.6	268.4	+ 2.4	+ 8.6
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	56.9	56.3	55.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.2
Food Stores	51.0	50.6	50.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.6	30.8	30.2	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	86.4	85.0	80.7	+ 1.4	+ 5.7
Other Retail Trade	52.1	51.9	51.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.6	83.5	82.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.3
Banking	27.8	27.8	27.8	0	0
SERVICES	311.0	310.8	305.1	+ 0.2	+ 5.9
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.3	22.0	21.0	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Other Services	288.7	288.8	284.1	- 0.1	+ 4.6
GOVERNMENT	319.2	319.9	319.1	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Federal	34.2	34.1	33.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
State and Local	285.0	285.8	285.3	- 0.8	- 0.3
State	101.6	102.3	104.2	- 0.7	- 2.6
Local	183.4	183.5	181.1	- 0.1	+ 2.3

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$425.54	$423.61	$384.94	42.3	41.9	39.4	$10.06	$10.11	$9.77
Durable Goods	399.67	389.99	354.42	42.7	41.8	39.6	9.36	9.33	8.95
Lumber & Wood Products	327.53	315.56	282.08	39.7	39.2	41.0	8.25	8.05	6.88
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	397.96	373.42	358.18	42.7	40.9	41.6	9.32	9.13	8.61
Fabricated Metal Products	391.96	393.16	388.45	43.6	43.3	42.5	8.99	9.08	9.14
Machinery, ex. Electrical	407.40	405.46	381.23	42.0	41.5	40.6	9.70	9.77	9.39
Electric & Electronic Equip.	432.00	427.74	392.82	42.9	42.1	39.4	10.07	10.16	9.97
Transportation Equipment	463.31	444.75	359.78	43.3	41.8	36.9	10.70	10.64	9.75
Nondurable Goods	449.82	452.28	417.09	42.0	41.8	39.2	10.71	10.82	10.64
Food & Kindred Products	281.29	285.77	250.20	40.3	39.2	36.0	6.98	7.29	6.95
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	186.00	201.32	150.86	36.4	37.7	34.6	5.11	5.34	4.36
Paper & Allied Products	509.08	498.96	485.55	44.0	43.2	41.5	11.57	11.55	11.70
Printing & Publishing	307.93	314.77	312.80	37.1	38.2	36.8	8.30	8.24	8.50
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	639.48	624.75	594.49	43.8	42.5	42.8	14.60	14.70	13.89
Petroleum & Coal Products	636.12	670.46	630.21	46.5	48.2	45.8	13.68	13.91	13.76
Petroleum Refining	640.78	675.32	645.19	46.4	48.1	45.5	13.81	14.04	14.18
MINING	569.59	558.44	525.78	48.6	48.1	45.8	11.72	11.61	11.48
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	460.55	465.26	459.24	39.6	39.8	42.8	11.63	11.69	10.73
BANKING	246.96	237.63	217.93	39.2	37.9	37.0	6.30	6.27	5.89

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 123,400 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 100,500 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY APRIL 1984				REVISED MARCH 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	23,975	21,450	2,525	10.5	23,825	21,225	2,600	11.0
Oakdale (Allen)	6,425	5,175	1,250	19.4	6,375	5,100	1,275	20.0
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,450	9,225	1,225	11.7	10,400	9,025	1,375	13.2
DeRidder (Beauregard)	11,950	10,650	1,300	10.8	11,850	10,500	1,350	11.4
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,300	6,675	625	8.5	7,100	6,475	625	8.8
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,800	4,300	500	10.3	4,700	4,200	500	10.5
Cameron (Cameron)	4,700	4,325	375	8.1	4,600	4,200	400	8.8
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,525	5,850	675	10.4	6,325	5,650	675	10.7
Homer (Claiborne)	7,450	6,875	575	7.8	7,300	6,750	550	7.5
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,325	8,275	1,050	11.3	9,025	7,900	1,125	12.4
Mansfield (DeSoto)	11,650	10,475	1,175	10.1	11,200	9,975	1,225	10.9
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,000	4,200	800	16.0	4,850	3,975	875	17.9
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,850	7,250	600	7.7	7,675	7,075	600	7.9
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,150	12,450	1,700	12.0	13,925	12,125	1,800	12.9
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,700	7,500	1,200	13.8	8,650	7,325	1,325	15.3
New Iberia (Iberia)	35,975	32,025	3,950	11.0	36,000	31,825	4,175	11.6
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,125	13,650	1,475	9.8	14,925	13,450	1,475	9.9
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,300	5,850	450	7.0	6,125	5,675	450	7.4
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,050	11,375	1,675	12.9	12,850	11,125	1,725	13.4
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	38,500	34,650	3,850	10.0	37,925	34,000	3,925	10.3
Jena (LaSalle)	6,050	5,550	500	8.2	5,950	5,450	500	8.5
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,850	21,000	850	3.9	21,475	20,625	850	4.0
Tallulah (Madison)	5,525	4,800	725	13.1	5,350	4,550	800	15.0
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,450	11,850	1,600	11.8	13,200	11,600	1,600	12.2
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,675	16,350	1,325	7.5	17,175	15,750	1,425	8.3
Point-a-la-Hache (Plaqum.)	14,550	13,550	1,000	6.8	14,350	13,325	1,025	7.2
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	13,125	12,000	1,125	8.6	12,900	11,725	1,175	9.2
Coushatta (Red River)	4,275	3,950	325	7.5	4,150	3,800	350	8.5
Rayville (Richland)	8,325	7,375	950	11.5	8,000	6,975	1,025	12.7
Many (Sabine)	8,175	7,525	650	8.0	8,000	7,325	675	8.5
Norco (St. Charles)	22,100	20,100	2,000	9.1	21,775	19,750	2,025	9.3
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,450	4,100	350	7.7	4,225	3,875	350	8.4
Lutcher (St. James)	11,150	10,000	1,150	10.2	10,950	9,750	1,200	10.9
Reserve (St. John)	17,725	15,850	1,875	10.5	17,400	15,575	1,825	10.5
Opelousas (St. Landry)	34,600	29,525	5,075	14.7	34,050	28,800	5,250	15.4
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	19,750	17,375	2,375	12.1	19,050	16,650	2,400	12.6
Morgan City (St. Mary)	32,600	28,750	3,850	11.8	32,325	28,350	3,975	12.3
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	34,575	29,950	4,625	13.4	33,750	29,150	4,600	13.7
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,100	2,750	350	11.0	3,000	2,600	400	13.0
Houma (Terrebonne)	45,750	41,225	4,525	9.9	45,325	40,625	4,700	10.4
Farmerville (Union)	7,725	6,975	750	9.7	7,650	6,825	825	10.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,050	22,450	2,600	10.4	24,375	21,650	2,725	11.2
Leesville (Vernon)	12,250	10,850	1,400	11.3	12,125	10,700	1,425	11.8
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,625	12,700	1,925	13.2	14,425	12,400	2,025	14.0
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,375	3,375	1,000	22.9	4,200	3,225	975	23.3
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,825	3,575	250	6.2	3,725	3,475	250	6.7
Winnfield (Winn)	5,650	5,075	575	10.1	5,575	5,000	575	10.2

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change From	
				Mar. 1984	Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.2	54.1	53.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.3	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.7	0	+ 0.2
NONMANUFACTURING	48.9	48.8	48.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Construction	3.4	3.3	3.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.4	12.3	12.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.8	2.7	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	9.7	9.5	9.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.2	2.3	+ 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	4.2	4.1	4.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services & Mining	11.8	11.8	11.6	0	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.0	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.6	6.6	0	0
Government	15.9	16.0	15.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.8	5.9	5.8	- 0.1	0
Local	7.3	7.3	7.2	0	+ 0.1

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area during April was estimated to be 54,200. This employment estimate is 100 more than last month and 1,000 above this month a year ago.

Total manufacturing employment remaining unchanged since the previous month, has increased 200 from April of last year. The gain was in nondurable goods.

Total employment in the nonmanufacturing industries has increased by 100 over last month and by 800 over April of last year. Estimates for April show slight gains in construction and retail trades with slight losses in wholesale trade and state government. Compared to April of last year, each major segment shows an increase except transportation, communication, and utilities, which remained unchanged.

During the next thirty days total employment should continue to increase with the number of unemployed decreasing.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change From Mar. 1984	Net Change From Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	209.2	208.5	204.5	+ 0.7	+ 4.7
MANUFACTURING	22.1	22.0	22.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Durable Goods	4.3	4.2	3.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.8	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.8	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.8	18.5	0	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.0	13.1	13.9	- 0.1	- 0.9
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.1	1.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	187.1	186.5	182.1	+ 0.6	+ 5.0
Mining	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Construction	20.0	20.2	20.3	- 0.2	- 0.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.9	10.1	10.1	- 0.2	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	50.8	49.5	47.0	+ 1.3	+ 3.8
Wholesale Trade	11.5	11.4	11.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	39.3	38.1	35.9	+ 1.2	+ 3.4
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.3	12.3	12.2	0	+ 0.1
Services	39.6	39.3	38.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.5
Government	53.6	54.2	53.4	- 0.6	+ 0.2

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$503.14	$501.50	$467.43	43.6	42.9	40.4	$11.54	$11.69	$11.57
Petro-Chemicals	669.68	667.92	621.22	46.7	46.0	43.2	14.34	14.52	14.38

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 11,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 209,200 during April, up 700 over March's revised estimate of 208,500 and up 4,700 over the total for last April. Manufacturing and nonmanufacturing had increases during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,100 in April, was up 100 over March's revised estimate. Durable goods were up due to more business in iron and steel foundries and in miscellaneous machinery, except electrical plants. Nondurable goods had no change.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 187,100 during April was up 600 over March's revised estimate. Mining and finance, insurance and real estate had no change during the current period. Construction was down due to less business in general building contractors-nonresidential building. Transportation and public utilities was down 200 due to reductions in telephone communication and in radio and television broadcasting. Wholesale trade and retail trade were up due to seasonal increases. Services were up due to more business in advertising, miscellaneous repair shops and related services, and in job training and vocational rehabilitation services. Government was down due to reductions in state government resulting from budget problems.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 225,800 during April, up 2,100 over the March revised estimate and up 11,400 over April of last year. Unemployment at 17,300 was down 200 from last month's revised estimate. April's unemployment rate at 7.1 percent is down some from the revised 7.2 percent for last month. The state's revised March rate of 9.2 percent dropped to 8.9 percent in April. The local civilian labor force totaled 243,100 during April, up 1,900 from March's revised estimate and up 4,600 over the total for last April.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 11,900 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $503.14 in April, up $1.64 from March's revised average. Average weekly hours were up 0.7 hours and average hourly earnings were down $0.15. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,500 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 356 applicants in jobs during April.

The consumer price index for March, 1984 for all urban consumers was 307.3 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 303.3 using base period 1967=100.

Seasonal factors that include student workers seeking summer employment during the coming months will increase the unemployment and unemployment rate during the summer.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change From Mar. 1984	Net Change From Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.4	88.8	89.2	- 0.4	- 0.8
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	84.6	85.0	85.4	- 0.4	- 0.8
Mining	16.9	17.6	16.8	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Construction	5.0	4.9	5.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.7	6.7	6.9	0	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.4	23.3	23.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	6.4	6.5	6.7	- 0.1	- 0.3
Retail Trade	17.0	16.8	16.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	+ 0.2
Food Stores	2.5	2.5	2.3	0	+ 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.4	10.2	10.2	+ 0.2	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Services	18.4	18.4	18.4	0	0
Government	10.4	10.3	11.1	+ 0.1	- 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during April stood at 88,400, a decrease of 400 from the previous month and 800 from the same period of time a year ago. The decrease was in the nonmanufacturing segment with the largest decrease occurring in mining.

Manufacturing remained stable from the previous month and also from the same period of time a year ago.

The oilfield continues to suffer the slowdown in drilling activities.

Residential construction is at a low point because of high interest rates.

Unemployment is expected to ease upward as summer job applicants enter the labor force.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change From Mar. 1984	Net Change From Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	59.0	59.1	62.6	- 0.1	- 3.6
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.4	9.7	- 0.2	- 0.5
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.6	8.9	- 0.2	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.8	8.0	- 0.2	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.8	49.7	52.9	+ 0.1	- 3.1
Mining	2.3	2.4	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	4.7	4.7	7.2	0	- 2.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.5	4.3	4.6	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.0	13.8	14.3	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.4	3.3	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	10.6	10.5	11.1	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.4	3.2	0	- 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.8	0	+ 0.2
Services	10.9	11.0	10.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.4	10.5	10.7	- 0.1	- 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural payroll employment slipped 100 below the mid-March level to the current estimate of 59,000. An increase of 100 jobs in nonmanufacturing establishments was negated by a decrease of 200 in the factory sector. Both major industry groups are down a total of 3,600 workers from the year ago level.

Manufacturing employment fell 200 below last month and all of the loss occurred in chemical and petroleum products. The workers involved in this employment fluctuation were temporary "turnaround" workers.

In the nonfactory sector, declines in Mining, Services, and Government were offset by gains in Transportation and Public Utilities, and Trade.

The outlook is for increasing unemployment as graduates and summer-job seekers enter the labor force. Employment is not expected to increase.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change From Mar. 1984	Net Change From Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.5	49.7	51.7	+ 0.8	- 1.2
MANUFACTURING	6.9	6.8	7.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Durable Goods	2.2	2.1	2.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	1.9	1.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.7	4.7	5.0	0	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.3	0	- 0.3
NONMANUFACTURING	43.6	42.9	44.6	+ 0.7	- 1.0
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Construction	2.8	2.5	2.9	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.2	14.1	13.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade	4.0	4.0	4.0	0	0
Retail Trade	10.2	10.1	9.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.9	2.7	- 0.2	0
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.6	2.7	+ 0.1	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.3	10.1	10.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.3	4.2	4.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Government	9.0	8.9	10.6	+ 0.1	- 1.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment climbed to an estimated 50,500 workers during mid-April. This was a gain of 800 over the mid-March estimate.

Manufacturing, estimated at 6,900, was up 100 from the March estimate. The gain was in Durable Goods.

Nonmanufacturing rose by 700 to an estimated 43,600 workers. The largest gain was in Construction, up 300 workers. Improved weather conditions were a big factor. Wholesale and Retail Trade was up by 100. The gain was in Retail Trade. Services gained 200 workers with 100 of these being in Health Services. Government was up 100. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next 60 days, employment is expected to be relatively stable, but improved weather conditions will allow construction to expand. Educational employment will decline with the end of the spring semester. Unemployment is expected to rise during June as youths enter the labor market for the summer.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change From Mar. 1984	Net Change From Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	507.9	506.7	501.4	+ 1.2	+ 6.5
MANUFACTURING	39.1	38.8	40.6	+ 0.3	- 1.5
Durable Goods	22.7	22.5	24.1	+ 0.2	- 1.4
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.4	0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	2.9	3.0	0	- 0.1
Transportation Equipment	12.4	12.2	13.4	+ 0.2	- 1.0
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.5	7.4	9.0	+ 0.1	- 1.5
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.2	1.6	- 0.1	- 0.5
Nondurable Goods	16.4	16.3	16.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	6.9	6.8	7.2	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	+ 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	468.8	467.9	460.8	+ 0.9	+ 8.0
Mining	18.4	18.4	18.6	0	- 0.2
Construction	34.0	33.2	28.9	+ 0.8	+ 5.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.5	46.5	47.2	0	- 0.7
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Water Transportation	16.0	16.0	16.0	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	129.6	128.9	126.8	+ 0.7	+ 2.8
Wholesale Trade	34.3	34.4	34.6	- 0.1	- 0.3
Retail Trade	95.3	94.5	92.2	+ 0.8	+ 3.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.4	31.4	31.8	0	- 0.4
Services	124.6	124.8	123.4	- 0.2	+ 1.2
Government	84.3	84.7	84.1	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Federal	14.8	14.8	14.7	0	+ 0.1
State	20.3	20.7	21.8	- 0.4	- 1.5
Local	49.2	49.2	47.6	0	+ 1.6

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$395.08	$397.17	$345.04	41.5	41.2	38.0	$9.52	$9.64	$9.08
Durable Goods	418.35	416.58	361.30	42.3	41.7	38.6	9.89	9.99	9.36
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	435.60	402.12	370.23	45.0	43.1	43.0	9.68	9.33	8.61
Fabricated Metal Products	438.75	452.50	411.40	45.0	45.8	42.5	9.75	9.88	9.68
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	394.21	382.76	322.92	39.5	38.2	35.1	9.98	10.02	9.20
Nondurable Goods	361.89	370.17	320.66	40.3	40.5	37.2	8.98	9.14	8.62
Food & Kindred Products	287.57	297.21	265.31	38.6	38.3	36.9	7.45	7.76	7.19
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	192.78	192.39	132.14	35.9	36.3	29.3	5.37	5.30	4.51
Paper & Allied Products	416.50	413.08	306.10	48.6	47.7	38.6	8.57	8.66	7.93
Printing & Publishing	368.87	380.92	281.25	41.4	42.8	37.6	8.91	8.90	7.48
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	565.39	640.72	651.60	39.4	42.8	45.0	14.35	14.97	14.48

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 25,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in April increased to 507,900, up 1,200 from March. Nonmanufacturing was favored by sizable gains in construction and retail trade. Manufacturing showed scattered minor changes.

Manufacturing employment totaled 39,100 in April, 300 above last month. Increases in ship and boatbuilding and repairing were due to the end of a strike at some area ship repair firms. Food and kindred products increased due to seasonal increases in seafood processing which offset downturns in the other segments of the industry. The other durable goods sector dropped due to problems that have continued to plague it. The other industries held steady over the month. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment lost 1,500 workers.

Nonmanufacturing was highlighted by the acceleration of work involving preparation for the 1984 World's Fair, adding an overall total of 900 workers. Construction pushed up strongly, both on and off the fair site. Retail trade benefitted from shopping for the Easter season, especially in general merchandise stores, apparel stores, and eating and drinking places. Less favorably, wholesale trade eased down in nondurable goods. Government was lowered by layoffs by state government. Services reflected a reduction in employment by private health services along with the closing of the Fair Grounds racing season partly offset by the opening of the Jefferson Downs racing season. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed no significant change. Mining held steady. Water transportation remained on the same level as last month and April of last year.

Average weekly earnings for area production workers totaled $395.08 in April, $2.09 below last month's average. An increase of 0.3 in average weekly hours could not offset the drop of $0.12 an hour in average hourly earnings. Compared to one year ago, factory workers are earning an average $50.04 a week more.

Estimated unemployment in April decreased to 41,400, down 1,100 from March. An increase in employment easily absorbed an expansion in the labor force. Current joblessness accounts for 7.8 percent of the labor force compared to 8.0 percent in March and 11.0 percent in April of last year. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totaled 12,699. About 44.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; approximately 31.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show changes dominated by and highlighted by the opening of the 1984 World's Fair. This eagerly awaited event is expected to enhance the employment picture until it closes in November. Construction will likely add more workers until work on the fair site is finished and then reduce employment. Other segments of the economy are predicted to benefit greatly from the fair, especially trade and services. Mining will be favored by better weather conditions. Unemployment will be enlarged by the early summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force. Hopefully, the World's Fair and industries benefitting from it will absorb many of the jobless.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Apr. 1984*	Mar. 1984**	Apr. 1983**	Net Change From Mar. 1984	Net Change From Apr. 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	149.7	149.1	146.1	+ 0.6	+ 3.6
MANUFACTURING	25.6	25.0	22.4	+ 0.6	+ 3.2
Durable Goods	19.7	19.2	16.6	+ 0.5	+ 3.1
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Metals and Machinery	11.9	11.7	10.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.5	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	8.0	7.8	7.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Other Durable Goods	6.3	6.0	4.3	+ 0.3	+ 2.0
Nondurable Good	5.9	5.8	5.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.5	1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	124.1	124.1	123.7	0	+ 0.4
Mining	6.2	6.2	6.5	0	- 0.3
Construction	9.2	8.8	8.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.2	9.3	9.3	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	33.6	33.5	33.9	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.2	9.0	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	24.4	24.3	24.9	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.1	8.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	31.6	31.9	30.9	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Government	26.2	26.3	26.5	- 0.1	- 0.3

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**	Apr. '84*	Mar. '84**	Apr. '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$410.88	$410.31	$367.75	42.8	42.3	39.5	$9.60	$9.70	$9.31
Lumber and Wood Products	225.62	212.49	238.99	38.7	36.7	42.6	5.83	5.79	5.61
Metals and Machinery	403.85	405.03	378.90	43.1	42.5	39.8	9.37	9.53	9.52
Food and Kindred Products	231.26	214.38	211.11	37.3	34.3	35.6	6.20	6.25	5.93
Printing and Publishing	250.37	252.36	232.10	29.7	29.9	27.5	8.43	8.44	8.44
Petroleum and Coal Products	547.79	581.03	489.72	46.9	48.5	44.0	11.68	11.98	11.13

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 19,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased from 149,100 in March to 149,700 for April. All of the increase occurred in manufacturing due to stronger demands for durable goods production. Employment in nondurable goods rose 100 during the past month. The employment total for nonmanufacturing remains unchanged from the revised March estimate, but up 400 more than April, 1983

Manufacturing employment for the Shreveport area reached 25,600, up 600 from last month, and 3,200 more than one year ago. The employment growth in the manufacturing of durable goods accounts for all but 100 of this total. Higher production of communication and transportation equipment resulted in the employment increase during the past month.

In nonmanufacturing employment, this area has 124,100, compared to 123,708 for April 1983. The employment gains in construction and trade from March to April were only enough to offset employment losses in transportation and public utilities, services and government.

The 19,700 production workers in this area had average weekly earnings of $410.88, compared with $367.75 for April, 1983. Weekly hours averaged 42.8, up from 42.3 last month and 39.5 for April, 1983. The average hourly earnings of $9.60 fell from $9.70 last month, but up from the average hourly earnings of $9.31 one year ago.

The current civilian labor force in the Shreveport area is 170,500, with 157,600 employed and 12,900 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 7.6 percent, down from the revised March rate of 8.0 percent. The unemployment rate for the state is 8.9 percent.

Employment gains should continue through May. Unemployment in this area should remain near the present level through May and will then show the usual seasonal increase in June, with the addition of new and reentrants into the labor force.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF NOVEMBER 1983

	LOUISIANA			ALEXANDRIA SMSA			BATON ROUGE SMSA			LAFAYETTE SMSA		
Industry	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	3,765	3,230	535	167	151	16	60	54	6	449	391	58
Contractural Construction (15-17)	18,495	13,287	5,208	711	540	171	3,072	2,428	644	400	268	132
Manufacturing (20-29)	8,650	4,872	3,778	244	126	118	471	302	169	120	89	31
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	3,721	2,421	1,300	89	62	27	210	123	87	149	122	27
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	1,476	985	491	30	25	5	98	54	44	121	89	32
Retail Trade (52-59)	6,176	3,719	2,457	279	214	65	492	274	218	263	176	87
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	928	689	239	47	41	6	81	67	14	45	37	8
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	11,474	6,836	4,638	349	235	114	1,009	556	453	464	345	119
Public Administration (91-97)	1,544	721	823	119	59	60	179	82	97	44	26	18
All Others	4,978	3,152	1,826	163	107	56	511	319	192	256	189	67
Totals	61,207	39,912	21,295	2,198	1,560	638	6,183	4,259	1,924	2,311	1,732	579
Occupations												
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	6,946	5,540	1,406	168	144	24	814	649	165	436	387	49
Clerical and Sales	10,954	8,157	2,797	456	362	94	1,091	753	338	620	537	83
Services Occupations	5,390	1,879	3,511	236	103	133	396	118	278	184	68	116
Agri., Fishery., Forestry & Related Occ.	627	233	394	25	18	7	16	5	11	19	14	5
Processing Occupations	1,620	761	859	41	17	24	133	82	51	14	7	7
Machine Trades	3,633	2,631	1,002	127	91	36	389	304	85	145	111	34
Benchwork Occupations	1,617	893	724	47	31	16	89	60	29	38	32	6
Structural Work Occupations	20,968	14,413	6,555	749	569	180	2,794	2,025	769	488	325	163
Miscellaneous Occupations	9,452	5,405	4,047	349	225	124	461	263	198	367	251	116
Totals	61,207	39,912	21,295	2,198	1,560	638	6,183	4,259	1,924	2,311	1,732	579

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF NOVEMBER 1983

	LAKE CHARLES SMSA			MONROE SMSA			NEW ORLEANS SMSA			SHREVEPORT SMSA		
Industry	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	155	133	22	69	67	2	247	195	52	322	287	35
Contractural Construction (15-17)	2,251	1,828	423	684	550	134	3,468	2,144	1,324	938	598	340
Manufacturing (20-29)	283	189	94	289	223	66	2,622	1,382	1,240	1,073	533	540
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	187	125	62	56	44	12	1,523	780	743	187	115	72
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	66	55	11	43	25	18	473	275	198	180	108	72
Retail Trade (52-59)	323	233	90	248	153	95	1,843	895	948	703	399	304
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	45	39	6	40	25	15	362	232	130	82	55	27
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	466	304	162	347	213	134	3,453	1,822	1,631	1,110	590	520
Public Administration (91-97)	64	34	30	45	20	25	388	133	255	120	52	68
All Others	361	268	93	122	82	40	1,298	697	601	343	186	157
Totals	4,201	3,208	993	1,943	1,402	541	15,677	8,555	7,122	5,058	2,923	2,135
Occupations												
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	287	242	45	274	236	38	2,370	1,734	636	490	416	74
Clerical and Sales	524	429	95	412	300	112	3,259	2,097	1,162	1,110	847	263
Services Occupations	214	96	118	155	50	105	1,730	420	1,310	681	171	510
Agri., Fishery., Forestry & Related Occ.	41	10	31	11	7	4	93	38	55	53	28	25
Processing Occupations	166	100	66	25	12	13	356	125	231	127	42	85
Machine Trades	128	110	18	153	123	30	915	656	259	361	188	173
Benchwork Occupations	15	14	1	38	30	8	337	145	192	471	241	230
Structural Work Occupations	2,326	1,857	469	563	451	112	4,418	2,523	1,895	997	641	356
Miscellaneous Occupations	500	350	150	317	193	119	2,199	817	1,382	768	349	419
Totals	4,201	3,208	993	1,943	1,402	541	15,677	8,555	7,122	5,058	2,923	2,135

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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

MAY 1984

RELEASE DATE:
JUNE 25, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY MAY 1984				REVISED APRIL 1984				REVISED MAY 1983			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,930.7	1,759.2	171.5	8.9	1,916.6	1,745.6	171.0	8.9	1,929.9	1,692.4	237.5	12.3
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	77.5	70.5	7.0	9.1	77.3	70.3	7.0	9.2	77.3	68.1	9.2	12.0
Baton Rouge 2/	244.8	227.0	17.8	7.3	243.6	226.1	17.5	7.2	240.8	216.2	24.6	10.2
Lafayette 3/	96.7	91.0	5.7	5.9	96.3	90.7	5.6	5.8	97.7	89.5	8.2	8.4
Lake Charles 4/	75.4	65.3	10.1	13.4	75.7	65.7	10.0	13.2	79.0	67.7	11.3	14.3
Monroe 5/	58.5	53.3	5.2	8.9	58.4	53.4	5.0	8.6	60.9	54.2	6.7	11.0
New Orleans 6/	537.1	494.0	43.1	8.0	533.3	491.4	41.9	7.9	533.6	476.2	57.4	10.7
Shreveport 7/	171.9	159.6	12.3	7.1	170.5	157.8	12.7	7.4	171.3	151.2	20.1	11.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during May stood at 1,576,200, an increase of 7,000 workers above April's level and 11,100 higher than May a year ago. Louisiana's nonmanufacturing employment increase was centered in construction, trade and services. The state's manufacturing industries showed higher payrolls in both the durable and nondurable goods segments.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing went up by 500 workers from April's level. Stone, clay and glass products employment was higher this month as the production of pottery and related products increased. More employees engaged in manufacturing communication equipment accounted for the higher level in electric and electronic equipment. Transportation equipment payrolls were up as a result of an increase in business for ship and boat building and repairing firms.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for May amounted to 98,000, an increase of 400 above last month's level, but a drop of 1,800 from May of last year. A seasonal increase in seafood canning and packaging primarily accounted for the upturn in food and kindred products payrolls. Apparel and other textile products employment was up as a result of more business throughout much of this sector. Paper and allied products employment edged up due to increased activity at paperboard mills, increased production of paperboard containers and boxes, and increased manufacture of certain miscellaneous converted paper products. Higher petroleum and coal products industry employment was centered in the petroleum refining segment. Chemicals and allied products payrolls were down from last month's level.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,396,500 for the current month, was 6,100 above last month's level and 9,700 higher than May a year ago. Mining employment was down as a result of a slowdown in the exploration for oil and gas. An upturn in heavy construction contributed most to the higher construction payrolls in May. Transportation and public utilities employment for the current month was up due to an increase in the railroad transportation segment. More business for eating and drinking places contributed most to the increase in trade employment. Real estate was amoung the segments that were instrumental in the increase of finance, insurance and real estate employment. Government employment stayed at the same level as last month.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 124,500 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $425.80 in April to $422.66 in May, a decrease of $3.14, but an increase of $32.62 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were seven cents higher in May than last month and $0.36 more than May of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.6 the current month, down by 0.6 hours from last month.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for May amounted to 171,500, an increase of 500 over the April level of 171,000. The unemployment rate for May was 8.9 percent, the same as last month's rate but 3.4 percentage points below the May a year ago figure of 12.3 percent. The comparable national unemployment rate for May was 7.2 percent compared to 7.6 percent in April and 9.8 percent in May a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force went from 1,916,600 in April to 1,930,700 in May, an increase of 14,100. Total employment for Louisiana moved from 1,645,600 in April to 1,759,200 in May, an increase of 13,600.

Unemployment in the upcoming month is expected to increase due to an influx of students into the labor force. Manufacturing employment may increase next month due in part to seasonal influences. Nonmanufacturing segments such as construction and trade are expected to add employees over the summer months. Services and government employment may fall during the next month or two.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change from Apr. 1984	Net Change from May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,576.2	1,569.2	1,565.1	+ 0.7	+ 11.1
MINING AND QUARRYING	76.6	77.2	79.9	- 0.6	- 3.3
Oil and Gas Extraction	73.4	74.1	76.7	- 0.7	- 3.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.2	3.1	3.2	+ 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	115.8	113.2	113.5	+ 2.6	+ 2.3
MANUFACTURING	179.7	178.8	178.3	+ 0.9	+ 1.4
Durable Goods	81.7	81.2	78.5	+ 0.5	+ 3.2
Lumber and Wood Products	13.4	13.4	12.9	0	+ 0.5
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.7	7.6	7.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	13.2	13.2	13.3	0	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.8	9.8	9.8	0	0
Electric & Electronic Equipment	10.1	9.8	8.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
Transportation Equipment	20.9	20.8	20.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.4	2.4	2.1	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	98.0	97.6	99.8	+ 0.4	- 1.8
Food & Kindred Products	21.9	21.7	23.3	+ 0.2	- 1.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.3	9.1	8.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Paper & Allied Products	11.8	11.7	11.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.8	0	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	28.9	29.1	30.4	- 0.2	- 1.5
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.5	12.4	12.9	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Petroleum Refining	11.8	11.7	12.2	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	114.6	114.3	118.1	+ 0.3	- 3.5
Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.2	7.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.2	67.2	68.3	0	- 1.1
Communications & Public Utilities	39.9	39.9	42.8	0	- 2.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	374.4	372.5	367.4	+ 1.9	+ 7.0
Wholesale Trade	95.1	95.3	94.3	- 0.2	+ 0.8
Retail Trade	279.3	277.2	273.1	+ 2.1	+ 6.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.4	57.1	57.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Food Stores	51.2	51.0	50.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.7	30.7	30.3	0	+ 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	88.0	86.4	82.8	+ 1.6	+ 5.2
Other Retail Trade	52.0	52.0	51.9	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.5	83.4	82.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Banking	27.8	27.8	27.8	0	0
SERVICES	312.5	310.7	306.2	+ 1.8	+ 6.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.7	22.3	21.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.3
Other Services	289.8	288.4	284.8	+ 1.4	+ 5.0
GOVERNMENT	319.1	319.1	319.0	0	+ 0.1
Federal	34.2	34.2	33.8	0	+ 0.4
State and Local	284.9	284.9	285.2	0	- 0.3
State	101.0	101.5	104.4	- 0.5	- 3.4
Local	183.9	183.4	180.8	+ 0.5	+ 3.1

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$422.66	$425.80	$390.04	41.6	42.2	39.8	$10.16	$10.09	$9.80
Durable Goods	392.40	398.65	352.63	41.7	42.5	39.4	9.41	9.38	8.95
Lumber & Wood Products	320.97	330.74	283.82	39.0	39.8	41.8	8.23	8.31	6.79
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	392.77	395.66	346.51	42.6	43.1	41.9	9.22	9.18	8.27
Fabricated Metal Products	388.09	398.50	374.80	42.6	43.6	40.0	9.11	9.14	9.37
Machinery, ex. Electrical	388.87	396.48	382.99	39.6	41.3	40.7	9.82	9.60	9.41
Electric & Electronic Equip.	442.40	428.41	391.33	43.5	43.1	38.9	10.17	9.94	10.06
Transportation Equipment	442.02	463.31	358.06	41.7	43.3	36.8	10.60	10.70	9.73
Nondurable Goods	450.69	450.84	427.07	41.5	41.9	40.1	10.86	10.76	10.65
Food & Kindred Products	269.51	277.93	252.54	37.8	39.2	36.6	7.13	7.09	6.90
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	171.77	184.40	152.50	34.7	36.3	35.3	4.95	5.08	4.32
Paper & Allied Products	492.16	506.20	499.38	43.4	43.6	42.0	11.34	11.61	11.89
Printing & Publishing	314.50	309.13	320.53	37.8	37.2	36.8	8.32	8.31	8.71
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	650.13	638.30	606.63	43.4	43.6	43.3	14.98	14.64	14.01
Petroleum & Coal Products	684.68	674.42	644.98	49.4	48.8	47.6	13.86	13.82	13.55
Petroleum Refining	687.89	682.16	659.33	49.1	48.9	47.4	14.01	13.95	13.91
MINING	542.14	574.09	522.35	46.1	48.9	45.7	11.76	11.74	11.43
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	462.80	466.06	437.70	40.0	39.8	38.7	11.57	11.71	11.31
BANKING	240.15	244.67	215.08	37.7	39.4	37.8	6.37	6.21	5.69

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 124,500 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 100,300 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY MAY 1984				REVISED APRIL 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	24,200	21,550	2,650	11.0	23,975	21,425	2,550	10.6
Oakdale (Allen)	6,475	5,275	1,200	18.6	6,425	5,175	1,250	19.4
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,450	9,300	1,150	10.9	10,450	9,225	1,225	11.6
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,150	10,850	1,300	10.8	11,900	10,650	1,250	10.4
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,275	6,675	600	8.2	7,300	6,675	625	8.5
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,900	4,425	475	9.8	4,800	4,300	500	10.3
Cameron (Cameron)	4,850	4,525	325	7.0	4,675	4,300	375	8.1
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,600	5,950	650	9.9	6,550	5,850	700	10.4
Homer (Claiborne)	7,525	6,950	575	7.6	7,475	6,875	600	7.9
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,525	8,450	1,075	11.2	9,325	8,275	1,050	11.4
Mansfield (DeSoto)	11,800	10,625	1,175	10.0	11,625	10,450	1,175	10.1
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,075	4,350	725	14.5	5,000	4,200	800	16.1
Clinton (East Feliciana)	7,950	7,350	600	7.7	7,850	7,250	600	7.7
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,275	12,575	1,700	11.9	14,175	12,450	1,725	12.1
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,850	7,700	1,150	12.9	8,700	7,500	1,200	13.8
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,100	32,150	3,950	10.9	35,975	32,000	3,975	11.0
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,225	13,750	1,475	9.6	15,125	13,625	1,500	10.0
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,400	5,925	475	7.4	6,275	5,825	450	7.2
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,275	11,600	1,675	12.7	13,075	11,375	1,700	12.9
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	38,750	34,950	3,800	9.8	38,450	34,600	3,850	10.0
Jena (LaSalle)	6,150	5,650	500	8.3	6,050	5,550	500	8.3
Ruston (Lincoln)	22,200	21,325	875	3.9	21,825	20,975	850	3.9
Tallulah (Madison)	5,550	4,925	625	11.4	5,525	4,800	725	13.1
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,400	11,975	1,425	10.6	13,450	11,850	1,600	11.9
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,775	16,525	1,250	7.1	17,675	16,325	1,350	7.6
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,575	13,600	975	6.7	14,525	13,525	1000	6.9
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	13,350	12,175	1,175	8.9	13,150	12,000	1,150	8.6
Coushatta (Red River)	4,300	3,975	325	7.4	4,275	3,950	325	7.6
Rayville (Richland)	8,425	7,500	925	10.9	8,350	7,375	975	11.7
Many (Sabine)	8,275	7,600	675	8.2	8,150	7,500	650	8.0
Norco (St. Charles)	22,350	20,225	2,125	9.5	22,100	20,075	2,025	9.2
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,550	4,200	350	7.5	4,425	4,075	350	7.8
Lutcher (St. James)	11,350	10,075	1,275	11.3	11,150	10,000	1,150	10.3
Reserve (St. John)	18,025	16,075	1,950	10.9	17,700	15,825	1,875	10.6
Opelousas (St. Landry)	35,175	30,075	5,100	14.5	34,625	29,500	5,125	14.8
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	19,875	17,400	2,475	12.4	19,750	17,350	2,400	12.2
Morgan City (St. Mary)	32,750	28,925	3,825	11.7	32,625	28,725	3,900	11.9
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	35,175	30,550	4,625	13.2	34,600	29,900	4,700	13.5
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,125	2,825	300	10.0	3,100	2,750	350	10.9
Houma (Terrebonne)	46,075	41,675	4,400	9.6	45,775	41,175	4,600	10.0
Farmerville (Union)	7,900	7,125	775	9.9	7,725	6,975	750	9.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,650	22,975	2,675	10.4	25,100	22,425	2,675	10.7
Leesville (Vernon)	12,350	11,050	1,300	10.4	12,250	10,850	1,400	11.4
Bogalusa (Washington)	14,725	12,800	1,925	13.1	14,625	12,675	1,950	13.2
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,425	3,475	950	21.5	4,375	3,375	1,000	22.9
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,875	3,650	225	5.7	3,825	3,575	250	6.3
Winnfield (Winn)	5,775	5,225	550	9.3	5,650	5,075	575	10.2

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.1	54.2	53.5	- 0.1	+ 0.6
MANUFACTURING	5.3	5.3	5.2	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.8	48.9	48.3	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Construction	3.3	3.4	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.5	12.4	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Retail Trade	9.8	9.7	9.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.3	4.2	4.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Services & Mining	11.8	11.8	11.6	0	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.0	0	+ 0.2
Other Services & Mining	6.6	6.6	6.6	0	0
Government	15.8	15.9	15.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
State	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Local	7.2	7.3	7.2	- 0.1	0

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area was estimated at 54,100 during May. This employment is 100 less than last month and 600 more than this month a year ago.

Total employment in manufacturing remained unchanged since the previous month. Since May of last year employment in manufacturing has increased 100 and the gain was in nondurable goods.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing industries fell 100 during the past thirty days, and increased 500 since May of last year. Estimates for May revealed slight decreases in employment in the construction and government segment, with a slight gain in retail trade. Compared to May of last year each major segment shows an increase, except transporatation, communication, and utilities and construction.

During the next thirty days the number of employed should decrease and the unemployment rate should go up. These changes will be seasonal due to the influx of both students, and some school personnel into the labor market.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	210.2	209.8	205.2	+ 0.4	+ 5.0
MANUFACTURING	22.2	22.1	22.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	4.4	4.3	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.8	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	0.8	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	2.0	1.9	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.8	18.4	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	2.2	2.1	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.0	13.1	13.9	- 0.1	- 0.9
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	188.0	187.7	183.1	+ 0.3	+ 4.9
Mining	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Construction	20.4	20.2	20.6	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.9	9.9	10.1	0	- 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	50.7	50.9	47.6	- 0.2	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	11.3	11.5	11.1	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	39.4	39.4	36.5	0	+ 2.9
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.5	12.4	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Services	39.6	39.4	38.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
Government	54.0	54.0	53.2	0	+ 0.8

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$499.48	$506.33	$468.12	42.8	43.8	41.5	$11.67	$11.56	$11.28
Petro-Chemicals	653.14	672.95	642.86	45.2	46.7	45.4	14.45	14.41	14.16

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA was estimated at 210,200 during May, up 400 over April's revised estimate of 209,800 and up 5,000 over the total for last May. Manufacturing was up 100 and nonmanufacturing increased 300 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,200 in May, was up 100 over April's revised estimate. Durable goods were up due to a seasonal increase in blast furnaces, steel works and rolling and finishing mills, and more business in miscellaneous machinery, except electrical. Nondurable goods had no change.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 188,000 during May, was up 300 over April's revised estimate. Mining, transportation and public utilities, retail trade and government had no change during the current period. Construction was up due to more business for general building contractors. Finance, insurance and real estate was up due to increased activity in commercial and stock savings banks. Services were up due to more business in hotels and motels and in legal services. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in chemical and allied products.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 12,000 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $499.48 in May, down $6.85 from April's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 1.0 hour and average hourly earnings were up $0.11. Less overtime worked contributed to these changes.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,300 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 382 applicants in jobs during May.

The consumer price index for April, 1984 for all urban consumers was 308.8 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 304.1 using base period 1967=100.

Total employment of the Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 227,000 during May, up 900 over the April revised estimate and up 10,800 over May of last year. Unemployment at 17,800 was up 300 over last month's revised estimate; however, it was down 6,800 from the year ago total. May's unemployment rate at 7.3 percent is up from the revised 7.2 percent for last month. The state current rate is 8.9 percent. The local civilian labor force totaled 244,600 during May, up 1,200 during May and up 10,800 over the total for last May.

Seasonal factors that include student workers seeking summer employment during the coming months will increase the unemployment and unemployment rate during the summer months.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Apr. 1984	May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.5	88.4	89.2	+ 0.1	- 0.7
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	84.7	84.6	85.5	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Mining	16.5	16.9	16.5	- 0.4	0
Construction	4.9	5.0	5.3	- 0.1	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.8	6.7	6.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.8	23.4	23.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	6.5	6.4	6.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	17.3	17.0	16.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.7	2.6	2.7	+ 0.1	0
Food Stores	2.6	2.5	2.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.5	10.4	10.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Services	18.5	18.4	18.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Government	10.4	10.4	11.0	0	- 0.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Lafayette's nonagricultural employment in May stood at 88,500, a decrease of 100 over April's level and 700 below a comparable period a year ago. The decrease was in nonmanufacturing in the segments of construction, transporation and utilities and government.

Mining for May stood at 16,500, a decrease of 400 from April and no change from the same period a year ago.

Construction stood at 4,900, a decrease of 100 from the previous month and 400 below a comparable period a year ago.

The wholesale and retail trade stood at 23,800, an increase of 400 from the previous month and 200 over the same period a year ago.

Government remained the same from the previous month but dropped 600 from May of 1983.

An increase in the unemployment rate is expected due to the influx of students into the labor force this summer. The economy is still not healthy enough to provide jobs for most of them entering the labor market.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Apr. 1984	May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.5	59.0	62.3	- 0.5	- 3.8
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.2	9.8	0	- 0.6
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	9.0	0	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.6	8.1	0	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.3	49.8	52.5	- 0.5	- 3.2
Mining	2.2	2.3	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Construction	4.3	4.7	6.8	- 0.4	- 2.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.6	4.5	4.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.9	14.0	14.5	- 0.1	- 0.6
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.4	3.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	10.6	10.6	11.3	0	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.4	3.2	0	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	- 0.1
Services	10.8	10.9	10.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.7	0.8	+ 0.1	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.4	10.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Employment on area payrolls fell 500 to the current estimate of 58,500. Manufacturing remained unchanged while nonmanufacturing suffered the entire loss. When compared to the year ago level, the current nonagricultural wage and salary employment total declined by 3,800. Manufacturing declined by 600 and nonmanufacturing by 3,200.

Manufacturing employment, in May, remained unchanged from April but fell 600 below May, 1983. Nonmanufacturing slipped 500 to the current estimate of 49,300. Losses in mining, construction, trade and services totalling 700 were offset by gains in transportation and public utilities, and government.

Unemployment climbed from 10,000 and a rate of 13.2 percent in April, to 10,100 and a rate of 13.4 percent in May, as summer job seekers and graduates entered the labor force following the end of the school year.

The outlook is for seasonally increasing unemployment and little change in employment.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Apr. 1984	May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	50.2	50.4	52.1	- 0.2	- 1.9
MANUFACTURING	7.0	7.0	7.1	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.2	2.3	2.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.3	0.2	- 0.1	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.8	4.7	5.0	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	0.9	0.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.3	0	- 0.3
NONMANUFACTURING	43.2	43.4	45.0	- 0.2	- 1.8
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Construction	2.6	2.5	3.0	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.6	2.7	2.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.1	14.3	14.0	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	3.9	4.0	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	10.2	10.3	9.9	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	3.0	2.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.3	10.3	10.1	0	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.2	4.3	4.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Government	9.0	9.0	10.7	0	- 1.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 50,200, was 200 below the April estimate of 50,400. The loss was in non-manufacturing.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,000, was unchanged from April, however, there were changes. Durable Goods was down 100, while Non-Durable Goods rose by 100.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 43,200, was 200 below the April estimate. Wholesale and Retail Trade was down 200. Transportation and Public Utilities was down by 100. Construction was up by 100. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next 30 days employment is expected to decline slightly as educational facilities begin the summer vacation period. Unemployment is expected to rise as youths enter the labor force seeking summer employment.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From Apr. 1984	Net Change From May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	511.0	508.8	504.3	+ 2.2	+ 6.7
MANUFACTURING	39.5	39.0	40.9	+ 0.5	- 1.4
Durable Goods	23.0	22.6	23.8	+ 0.4	- 0.8
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Transportation Equipment	12.7	12.3	13.2	+ 0.4	- 0.5
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.8	7.5	8.8	+ 0.3	- 1.0
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.6	0	- 0.5
Nondurable Goods	16.5	16.4	17.1	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	6.8	6.8	7.5	0	- 0.7
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	1.8	1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	471.5	469.8	463.4	+ 1.7	+ 8.1
Mining	18.4	18.5	18.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Construction	33.0	33.8	30.0	- 0.8	+ 3.0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.4	46.9	47.2	- 0.5	- 0.8
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Water Transportation	15.8	16.4	16.2	- 0.6	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	130.8	129.9	128.2	+ 0.9	+ 2.6
Wholesale Trade	34.5	34.3	34.5	+ 0.2	0
Retail Trade	96.3	95.6	93.7	+ 0.7	+ 2.6
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.5	31.5	32.0	0	- 0.5
Services	127.1	124.9	123.1	+ 2.2	+ 4.0
Government	84.3	84.3	84.4	0	- 0.1
Federal	14.7	14.8	14.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
State	20.2	20.3	22.1	- 0.1	- 1.9
Local	49.4	49.2	47.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.7

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$402.36	$396.68	$336.97	42.0	41.8	37.4	$9.58	$9.49	$9.01
Durable Goods	433.87	422.57	350.43	43.3	42.9	37.6	10.02	9.85	9.32
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	437.58	436.57	354.89	44.2	45.1	41.9	9.90	9.68	8.47
Fabricated Metal Products	458.17	480.62	378.79	46.8	49.6	38.3	9.79	9.69	9.89
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	421.34	394.61	317.28	41.8	39.5	34.6	10.08	9.99	9.17
Nondurable Goods	359.07	360.59	315.61	40.3	40.2	37.0	8.91	8.97	8.53
Food & Kindred Products	287.27	287.54	266.80	38.1	38.7	36.8	7.54	7.43	7.25
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	184.19	189.02	135.44	34.3	35.2	30.3	5.37	5.37	4.47
Paper & Allied Products	400.76	416.50	313.61	46.6	48.6	39.3	8.60	8.57	7.98
Printing & Publishing	390.21	367.28	289.18	44.8	41.5	37.9	8.71	8.85	7.63
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	577.75	572.22	580.43	39.9	39.6	41.4	14.48	14.45	14.02

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 25,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in May moved to 511,000, a level 2,200 above April. Highlighting all economic activity in the area was the opening of the 1984 World's Fair, which offset decreases in other segments of nonmanufacturing. Manufacturing pushed up in both durable goods and nondurable goods.

Manufacturing employment totaled 39,500 in May, 500 above last month. The most significant change was in ship and boatbuilding and repairing. Over 300 workers returned to area shipyards as work began on new contracts. Apparel and other textile products also reported some increases, while the other manufacturing segments held steady. Even though manufacturing employment reached the highest level of this year in May, it is still down 1,400 compared to this time last year.

Nonmanufacturing changes were dominated by the opening of the World's Fair. Services benefited from this eagerly awaited event more than any other industry division. Amusement services added a large number of workers. The hotel-motel industry was favored by the opening of the new hotels as well as by new hires by older establishments. Business services showed an increase. Partly offsetting these gains in the services division were a general decrease in private health services and a seasonal downward adjustment in private educational services. In retail trade, attracting much interest was the opening of a large downtown department store, which is expected to enhance the downtown area of the city substantially. Eating and drinking places benefited from the opening of the World's Fair. Wholesale trade pushed up in the durable goods segment. Construction inevitably exhibited a decrease as work on the fair site neared completion. Water transportation fluctuated downward. Mining tapered off although weather conditions were good for outside work. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed no overall change. In government, small decreases in federal government and state government were offset by a small gain in local government.

Production workers in the New Orleans area averaged $402.36 a week in May, $5.68 above last month's average. Average weekly hours increased by 12 minutes and average hourly earnings rose nine cents. Compared to one year ago, factory workers are earning an average $65.39 more a week.

Estimated unemployment in May pushed up to 43,100, a level 1,200 above April. The pre-summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force was mostly responsible. The gain in nonagricultural wage and salary employment prevented a larger overall upturn in unemployment. Current joblessness comprises 8.0 percent of the labor force compared to 7.9 percent in April and 10.7 percent in May of last year. The unemployment rate in May was lower than the state rate of 8.9 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.2 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance numbered 12,780. Approximately 44.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 31.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show changes largely seasonal in nature. Construction and mining will benefit from summer weather conditions. Many segments of the economy will be favorably affected by the World's Fair. Partly offsetting gains will be seasonal decreases in public and private educational services. Unemployment will reflect the summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force, which will probably not be totally absorbed by employment gains.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	May 1984*	Apr. 1984**	May 1983**	Net Change From	
				Apr. 1984	May 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	151.6	150.1	147.0	+ 1.5	+ 4.6
MANUFACTURING	25.6	25.7	22.4	- 0.1	+ 3.2
Durable Goods	19.7	19.8	16.6	- 0.1	+ 3.1
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Metals and Machinery	12.1	11.9	10.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.5	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	8.2	8.0	7.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
Other Durable Goods	6.1	6.4	4.3	- 0.3	+ 1.8
Nondurable Good	5.9	5.9	5.8	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	126.0	124.4	124.6	+ 1.6	+ 1.4
Mining	6.5	6.3	6.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Construction	9.8	9.2	8.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.1	9.2	9.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.0	33.9	33.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.2	9.0	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	24.8	24.7	24.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.0	8.1	+ 0.1	0
Services	32.3	31.6	32.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.3
Government	26.2	26.2	26.5	0	- 0.3

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**	May '84*	Apr. '84**	May '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$414.83	$410.98	$365.98	42.2	42.5	39.1	$9.83	$9.67	$9.36
Lumber and Wood Products	251.52	225.62	220.40	41.3	38.7	40.0	6.09	5.83	5.51
Metals and Machinery	411.84	405.57	373.97	42.9	43.1	39.2	9.60	9.41	9.54
Food and Kindred Products	196.87	231.26	206.49	31.6	37.3	34.3	6.23	6.20	6.02
Printing and Publishing	277.49	250.37	239.32	32.8	29.7	29.4	8.46	8.43	8.14
Petroleum and Coal Products	573.04	549.43	505.13	49.4	47.0	46.3	11.60	11.69	10.91

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 19,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment for the Shreveport area has increased from 150,100 last month to 151,600, with most of the employment growth occurring in construction and services segments of nonmanufacturing.

The manufacturing employment total of 25,600 is slightly below the revised April estimate, but remains 3,200 above the year ago estimate. Employment gains during the past month in metals and machinery were offset by losses in transportation equipment employment.

The total for nonmanufacturing increased from the revised April estimate of 124,400 to 126,000 for May. The May, 1983 nonmanufacturing employment total was 124,600. The employment gains in services and construction accounts for 1,300 of the 1,600 increase during the past month. Only a slight employment growth occurred in mining, trade and finance, insurance and real estate segments of nonmanufacturing.

The Shreveport area has 19,700 production workers in manufacturing with average weekly earnings of $414.83. The revised average weekly earnings for April was $410.98 and the May, 1983 average was $365.98. The average weekly hours for production workers dropped slightly to 42.2 hours. The revised April average was 42.5 and 39.1 for May, 1983.Average hourly earnings were $9.83, compared to $9.67 last month and $9.36 one year ago.

The area has a civilian labor force of 171,900, comprised of 159,600 employed and 12,300 unemployed. The unemployment rate for May is 7.1 percent, down from the state rate of 8.9 percent, and the national rate of 7.5 percent.

Total unemployment for this area will show a gain during the next two months. This increase is seasonal and includes those seeking summer jobs. Total employment should remain stable during the summer period. The decline in government payrolls during the next three months will be offset by the hiring for summer as well as other employment needs.

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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

JUNE 1984

RELEASE DATE:
JULY 25, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY JUNE 1934				REVISED MAY 1984				REVISED JUNE 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,958.5	1,775.3	183.2	9.4	1,930.1	1,757.5	172.6	8.9	1,944.5	1,701.5	243.0	12.5
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	78.6	71.3	7.3	9.3	77.4	70.4	7.0	9.1	78.4	68.8	9.6	12.2
Baton Rouge 2/	248.3	228.0	20.3	8.2	244.3	226.4	17.9	7.3	243.1	216.8	26.3	10.8
Lafayette 3/	98.0	92.1	5.9	6.0	96.5	90.8	5.7	5.9	98.6	89.8	8.8	8.9
Lake Charles 4/	76.6	66.2	10.4	13.6	75.4	65.3	10.1	13.4	79.7	68.2	11.5	14.5
Monroe 5/	60.9	55.2	5.7	9.3	58.6	53.3	5.3	9.1	60.9	54.0	6.9	11.3
New Orleans 6/	545.1	498.7	46.4	8.5	537.0	493.6	43.4	8.1	538.9	480.3	58.6	10.9
Shreveport 7/	175.3	162.0	13.3	7.6	172.2	159.9	12.3	7.1	174.7	154.1	20.6	11.8

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during June amounted to 1,575,600 an increase of 1,200 above the previous month and 7,900 over the comparable period a year ago. Louisiana's manufacturing payrolls were up as a result of increases in both the durable and nondurable goods segments. The state's nonmanufacturing employment decrease was centered in construction, services and government.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, estimated at 83,200 for June, was 1,500 higher than the May level of 81,700 and 4,800 above the year ago figure. Increased activity at sawmills and planing mills resulted in an employment increase for the lumber and wood products industry. Stone, clay and glass products were higher this month largely due to increased production of glass and glassware and of pottery and related products. An upturn in the manufacturing of fabricated structural metal products was responsible for the increase in fabricated metal products employment. Increased need for farm and garden machinery contributed to the higher payroll level for the machinery, except electrical, industry. More employees engaged in manufacturing communication equipment accounted for the higher level of electric and electronic equipment employment. Transportation equipment payrolls were up due mostly to more business for the state's shipyards. Employee additions in certain miscellaneous manufacturing industries accounted for the increase in other durable goods.

Nondurable goods employment, at 98,700, was 700 more than last month, but it was 2,000 below the June a year ago figure. A seasonal increase in the canning and packaging of seafood contributed to the increase in food and kindred products employment. Increased output of men's and boy's furnishings helped employment in the apparel and other textile products industry edge upward. Less activity at paper mills was instrumental in the drop of paper and allied products employment. Petroleum and coal products payrolls were down from last month due to a decrease in petroleum refining. An increase occurred in other nondurable goods employment due largely to an upturn in the rubber and miscellaneous plastics products industry.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,393,700 for the current month, was 1,000 below last month's level, but 5,100 higher than June a year ago. Mining employment was higher due to increased production of crude petroleum and natural gas. A lessening of activity in the general building segment largely accounted for the decline in construction payrolls. Larger communications and public utilities payrolls were responsible for the higher transportation and public utilities employment for the current month. Trade employment moved up due mostly to more business throughout much of the retail segment. Banking was instrumental in the increase of finance, insurance and real estate employment. Seasonal losses in educational services employment were primary in the lower payrolls for services this month. Government employment for June was lower than last month as a result of a seasonal decrease in state education for the summer months.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 125,800 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $422.35 in May to $418.84 in June, a decrease of $3.51, but an increase of $25.34 above June of last year. Average hourly earnings were six cents lower in June than last month and $0.28 more than June of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.8 for the current month, a decrease of 0.1 hours from last month's average of 41.9 hours.

Estimated total unemployment during June amounted to 183,200, an increase of 10,600 above the May level of 172,600 and 59,800 lower than June of last year. The unemployment rate for June was 9.4 percent, an increase of 0.5 percentage points above last month's rate and 3.1 percentage points lower than June of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for June was 7.4 percent compared to 7.2 percent in May and 10.2 percent in June a year ago. The state's civilian labor force increased from 1,930,100 in May to 1,958,500 in June, an increase of 28,400. Total employment, at 1,775,300, was up by 17,800 from last month and 73,800 higher than June a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate should experience a decline during the next two or three months. The state's manufacturing employment may fall next month. Government employment is expected to fall in July. Construction employment may edge upward in July.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	June 1984*	May 1984**	June 1983**	Net Change from May 1984	Net Change from June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,575.6	1,574.4	1,567.7	+ 1.2	+ 7.9
MINING AND QUARRYING	77.5	76.6	79.7	+ 0.9	- 2.2
Oil and Gas Extraction	74.4	73.5	76.5	+ 0.9	- 2.1
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	113.4	114.4	115.7	- 1.0	- 2.3
MANUFACTURING	181.9	179.7	179.1	+ 2.2	+ 2.8
Durable Goods	83.2	81.7	78.4	+ 1.5	+ 4.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.6	13.4	13.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Furniture and Fixtures	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.8	7.7	7.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	13.3	13.2	13.3	+ 0.1	0
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.9	9.8	9.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Electric & Electronic Equipment	10.6	10.1	8.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.4
Transportation Equipment	21.3	20.9	20.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.9
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.5	2.4	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Nondurable Goods	98.7	98.0	100.7	+ 0.7	- 2.0
Food & Kindred Products	22.5	21.9	23.9	+ 0.6	- 1.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.4	9.3	8.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Paper & Allied Products	11.6	11.7	11.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.7	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	29.1	29.1	30.3	0	- 1.2
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.3	12.4	12.9	- 0.1	- 0.6
Petroleum Refining	11.7	11.7	12.3	0	- 0.6
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	3.8	3.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	115.4	114.7	118.3	+ 0.7	- 2.9
Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.5	7.0	0	+ 0.5
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.2	67.2	68.5	0	- 1.3
Communications & Public Utilities	40.7	40.0	42.8	+ 0.7	- 2.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	376.5	374.4	370.7	+ 2.1	+ 5.8
Wholesale Trade	95.4	95.2	94.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	281.1	279.2	275.8	+ 1.9	+ 5.3
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.4	57.4	57.9	0	- 0.5
Food Stores	51.6	51.1	51.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.9	30.6	30.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	88.7	88.0	83.8	+ 0.7	+ 4.9
Other Retail Trade	52.5	52.1	52.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.8	83.5	83.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Banking	28.1	27.8	28.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
SERVICES	311.2	312.9	304.9	- 1.7	+ 6.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	23.1	22.7	21.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.7
Other Services	288.1	290.2	283.5	- 2.1	+ 4.6
GOVERNMENT	315.9	318.2	315.9	- 2.3	0
Federal	34.5	34.2	34.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
State and Local	281.4	284.0	281.8	- 2.6	- 0.4
State	95.6	100.7	95.8	- 5.1	- 0.2
Local	185.8	183.3	186.0	+ 2.5	- 0.2

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$418.84	$422.35	$393.50	41.8	41.9	40.4	$10.02	$10.08	$9.74
Durable Goods	392.70	396.44	365.42	42.0	42.4	40.2	9.35	9.35	9.09
Lumber & Wood Products	326.14	319.80	287.04	38.1	39.0	41.6	8.56	8.20	6.90
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	391.62	396.48	406.35	42.2	44.8	45.2	9.28	8.85	8.99
Fabricated Metal Products	371.83	399.59	386.04	43.9	44.3	41.2	8.47	9.02	9.37
Machinery, ex. Electrical	394.07	392.75	402.26	41.7	40.2	43.3	9.45	9.77	9.29
Electric & Electronic Equip.	439.79	439.06	383.46	43.5	43.3	38.5	10.11	10.14	9.96
Transportation Equipment	457.52	452.63	367.91	42.6	42.5	37.2	10.74	10.65	9.89
Nondurable Goods	444.52	446.96	422.24	41.7	41.5	40.6	10.66	10.77	10.40
Food & Kindred Products	285.11	273.74	253.82	40.1	38.5	38.4	7.11	7.11	6.61
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	178.60	176.90	175.54	36.3	36.4	41.4	4.92	4.86	4.24
Paper & Allied Products	501.27	500.64	507.67	43.4	42.9	42.2	11.55	11.67	12.03
Printing & Publishing	296.54	310.27	324.11	37.3	37.7	37.6	7.95	8.23	8.62
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	632.71	646.15	595.16	43.1	43.6	42.3	14.68	14.82	14.07
Petroleum & Coal Products	638.01	666.85	624.25	45.9	46.6	45.4	13.90	14.31	13.75
Petroleum Refining	667.07	651.90	639.69	46.1	46.3	45.4	14.47	14.08	14.09
MINING	560.96	543.57	513.36	48.4	46.9	46.0	11.59	11.59	11.16
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	465.81	470.49	445.35	40.4	40.7	39.1	11.53	11.56	11.39
BANKING	238.89	237.89	216.13	38.1	37.7	37.2	6.27	6.31	5.81

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 125,800 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 101,800 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY JUNE 1984				REVISED MAY 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	24,450	21,725	2,725	11.2	24,175	21,525	2,650	11.0
Oakdale (Allen)	6,550	5,325	1,225	18.7	6,450	5,250	1,200	18.6
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,625	9,375	1,250	11.7	10,425	9,275	1,150	11.0
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,300	10,925	1,375	11.2	12,175	10,850	1,325	10.8
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,375	6,725	650	8.7	7,275	6,675	600	8.2
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,875	4,425	450	9.1	4,900	4,425	475	9.9
Cameron (Cameron)	4,950	4,600	350	7.1	4,875	4,525	350	7.0
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,575	5,900	675	10.4	6,575	5,925	650	10.0
Homer (Claiborne)	7,575	6,975	600	7.8	7,525	6,950	575	7.7
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,750	8,575	1,175	12.1	9,525	8,450	1,075	11.2
Mansfield (DeSoto)	11,950	10,700	1,250	10.4	11,800	10,625	1,175	10.0
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,400	4,600	800	14.8	5,100	4,350	750	14.5
Clinton (East Feliciana)	8,250	7,550	700	8.6	7,975	7,350	625	7.9
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,600	12,725	1,875	12.8	14,275	12,575	1,700	11.9
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,925	7,750	1,175	13.2	8,825	7,675	1,150	13.0
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,600	32,550	4,050	11.1	36,075	32,125	3,950	10.9
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,500	13,850	1,650	10.6	15,200	13,725	1,475	9.7
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,425	5,950	475	7.5	6,375	5,900	475	7.4
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,475	11,725	1,750	13.0	13,300	11,600	1,700	12.8
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	39,175	35,325	3,850	9.8	38,725	34,925	3,800	9.8
Jena (LaSalle)	6,200	5,700	500	8.2	6,150	5,650	500	8.3
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,400	20,500	900	4.1	22,175	21,300	875	3.9
Tallulah (Madison)	5,600	4,900	700	12.5	5,550	4,925	625	11.4
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,000	11,600	1,400	10.8	13,300	11,875	1,425	10.6
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,625	16,300	1,325	7.6	17,775	16,500	1,275	7.1
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,750	13,750	1,000	6.8	14,575	13,600	975	6.8
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	13,475	12,150	1,325	9.9	13,325	12,150	1,175	8.9
Coushatta (Red River)	4,450	4,000	450	9.8	4,300	3,975	325	7.5
Rayville (Richland)	8,425	7,475	950	11.2	8,425	7,500	925	11.0
Many (Sabine)	8,325	7,650	675	8.1	8,300	7,600	700	8.3
Norco (St. Charles)	22,600	20,275	2,325	10.3	22,350	20,200	2,150	9.6
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,600	4,225	375	8.2	4,525	4,175	350	7.6
Lutcher (St. James)	11,775	10,300	1,475	12.5	11,375	10,075	1,300	11.3
Reserve (St. John)	18,250	16,200	2,050	11.3	18,050	16,075	1,975	10.9
Opelousas (St. Landry)	35,900	30,275	5,625	15.7	35,300	30,050	5,250	14.9
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,100	17,500	2,600	12.9	19,875	17,375	2,500	12.6
Morgan City (St. Mary)	33,125	29,200	3,925	11.8	32,700	28,875	3,825	11.7
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	35,600	30,600	5,000	14.0	35,175	30,525	4,650	13.3
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,225	2,900	325	10.4	3,150	2,825	325	10.0
Houma (Terrebonne)	46,200	41,900	4,300	9.3	46,100	41,625	4,475	9.7
Farmerville (Union)	7,925	7,150	775	9.8	7,875	7,100	775	9.9
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,900	23,225	2,675	10.3	25,650	22,950	2,700	10.5
Leesville (Vernon)	12,650	11,350	1,300	10.3	12,325	11,025	1,300	10.5
Bogalusa (Washington)	15,000	12,875	2,125	14.2	14,750	12,800	1,950	13.2
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,475	3,500	975	21.7	4,425	3,475	950	21.7
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,925	3,700	225	5.9	3,875	3,650	225	5.8
Winnfield (Winn)	5,875	5,325	550	9.4	5,775	5,225	550	9.4

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.
Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100.
Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	June 1984*	May 1984**	June 1983**	Net Change From May 1984	Net Change From June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.1	54.2	53.5	- 0.1	+ 0.6
MANUFACTURING	5.4	5.3	5.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.6	2.5	2.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.0	1.9	1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
NONMANUFACTURING	48.7	48.9	48.3	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Construction	3.4	3.3	3.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.7	12.6	12.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	9.9	9.8	9.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.9	1.9	2.0	0	- 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.3	2.4	+ 0.1	0
Other Retail Trade	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Services & Mining	11.6	11.8	11.5	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.1	0	+ 0.1
Other Services & Mining	6.4	6.6	6.4	- 0.2	0
Government	15.6	15.8	15.4	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.9	5.8	5.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Local	6.9	7.2	6.8	- 0.3	+ 0.1

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Labor Market Area was estimated at 54,100 during June. This employment estimate is 100 less than last month and 600 more than this month a year ago.

Total employment in manufacturing increased 100 since the previous month and 200 from this month last year. The increases were in other nondurable goods.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing industries fell by 200 since last month, but has increased by 400 since this month last year. Since last month, construction, retail trade and state government has increased by 100 each, but these gains were offset by losses in other services, and local government. These estimated losses were due primarily to educational facilities closing for the summer. Compared to this month last year each major segment has increased with the exceptions of Construction, Trans., Comm., & Utilities and Finance, Ins., & Real Estate.

During the next thirty days total employment should remain relatively constant with the unemployment rate decreasing.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	June 1984*	May 1984**	June 1983**	Net Change From May 1984	Net Change From June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	208.5	209.9	203.8	- 1.4	+ 4.7
MANUFACTURING	22.2	22.2	22.3	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	3.8	0	+ 0.6
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.0	0.8	0	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.6	0	+ 0.4
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.8	18.5	0	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.1	13.0	13.9	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.2	1.1	- 0.1	0
NONMANUFACTURING	186.3	187.7	181.5	- 1.4	+ 4.8
Mining	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Construction	20.4	20.3	20.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.9	9.9	10.0	0	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	51.2	50.6	48.3	+ 0.6	+ 2.9
Wholesale Trade	11.6	11.3	11.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	39.6	39.3	37.2	+ 0.3	+ 2.4
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.5	12.5	12.5	0	0
Services	40.1	39.7	38.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
Government	51.3	53.8	50.8	- 2.5	+ 0.5

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$519.10	$513.11	$494.49	45.1	43.3	43.3	$11.51	$11.85	$11.42
Petro-Chemicals	653.14	672.95	635.36	45.2	46.7	44.4	14.45	14.41	14.31

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 11,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 208,500 during June, down 1,400 from May's revised estimate of 209,900 and up 4,700 over the total for last June. Manufacturing had no change and nonmanufacturing was down 1,400 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,200 in June was unchanged from the revised May total. Durable goods and nondurable goods totals had no change; however, chemicals and petroleum products were up due to more business in industrial chemicals and in agricultural chemicals.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 186,300 during June, was down 1,400 from May's revised estimate. Mining, transportation and public utilities, and finance, insurance and real estate had no change during the current period. Construction was up due to more business in highway and street construction, heavy construction, and miscellaneous special trades contractors. Wholesale and retail trades were up due to seasonal increases in most segments and the opening of a new supermarket. Services were up due to the opening of a new motel in the area and more business in job training and vocational rehabilitation services. Government employment was down due to a seasonal drop in public educational institutions.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 11,900 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $519.10 in June, up $5.99 from May's revised average. Average weekly hours were up 1.8 hours and average hourly earnings were down $0.34. Wage rate decreases and more overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estiamted at 248,300 during June, up 1,600 over the May revised estimate and up 11,100 over June of last year. Unemployment at 20,300 increased by 2,400 during the current period due to unemployed student workers in the labor force; however, unemployment dropped 6,000 since June of last year. June's unemployment rate at 8.2 percent is up from May's revised 7.3 percent and down from last June's 10.8 percent. The local civilian labor force totaled 248,300 during June, up 4,000 during June and up 5,100 over the total for last June.

Unemployment and unemployment rate expected to continue their seasonal increases during the coming month due to unemployed students looking for summer work.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,400 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 419 applicants in jobs during May.

The consumer price index for May, 1984 for all urban consumers was 309.7 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 305.4 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	June 1984*	May 1984**	June 1983**	May 1984	June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.5	88.5	88.5	0	0
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	84.7	84.7	84.8	0	- 0.1
Mining	16.7	16.5	16.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Construction	5.0	4.9	5.4	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.8	6.8	6.9	0	- 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.0	23.8	23.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	6.6	6.5	6.7	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	17.4	17.3	16.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.7	2.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Food Stores	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	+ 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.4	10.5	10.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Services	18.7	18.5	18.8	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Government	9.7	10.4	10.1	- 0.7	+ 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette stood at 88,500. This number reflected no change from the previous month or from the same period of time a year ago.

The majority of the industries showed little or no change from the previous month.

Mining showed an increase of 200 from the previous month.

Government showed a decrease of 700 from the previous month. This decrease is due to the seasonal factor of summer break in education.

The Lafayette unemployment rate should remain stable during the summer months.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	June 1984*	May 1984**	June 1983**	Net Change From May 1984	June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.7	58.5	62.2	+ 0.2	- 3.5
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.1	9.7	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.3	8.9	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.5	8.0	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	49.5	49.4	52.5	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Mining	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Construction	4.5	4.3	6.7	+ 0.2	- 2.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.6	4.6	4.5	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.0	13.9	14.5	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	3.4	3.3	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	10.6	10.6	11.3	0	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.1	2.4	0	- 0.3
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.4	3.3	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.7	10.9	11.0	- 0.2	- 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.5	10.5	10.6	0	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment climbed 200 in June to the current estimate of 58,700. Manufacturing and nonmanufacturing employment shared equal increases. The current estimate shows a decline of 3,500 jobs during the twelve month period beginning in June 1983. During this time manufacturing employment dropped by 500 while nonmanufacturing dropped by 3,000.

Employment in factory establishments increased 100 over the mid-May level. All of it was centered in chemical and petroleum products. Nondurable goods suffered a loss of 500 jobs during the past twelve months while durable goods remained unchanged.

Nonfactory employment inched upward 100 over last month. Small gains and losses occurred throughout the nonfactory industry spectrum during the May-June interval. When today's nonmanufacturing estimate is compared with the year ago level a decline of 3,000 jobs is evident. The largest loss occurred in construction, with related trade in second place, and services in third. The only gains occurred in transportation and public utilities, and finance, insurance, and real estate.

Unemployment, after reaching the seasonal peak in June, is expected to decline gradually as summer job seekers abandon their search for work. Employment is not expected to increase during the next 30 days.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	June	May	June	Net Change From	
	1984*	1984**	1983**	May 1984	June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	51.4	50.3	51.7	+ 1.1	- 0.3
MANUFACTURING	7.0	7.1	7.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.1	2.2	2.1	- 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	2.0	1.9	- 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.9	5.0	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.1	3.3	0	- 0.2
NONMANUFACTURING	44.4	43.2	44.6	+ 1.2	- 0.2
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Construction	2.6	2.6	3.2	0	- 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.8	2.6	2.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.1	14.2	14.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.0	4.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.0	10.2	10.0	- 0.2	0
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.0	3.0	2.6	0	+ 0.4
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.0	4.0	4.0	0	0
Services	10.3	10.3	10.2	0	+ 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.2	4.2	4.1	0	+ 0.1
Government	10.1	9.0	9.8	+ 1.1	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose by 1,100 to an estimated 51,400 during mid-June.

Manufacturing declined by 100 to an estimated 7,000. The minimal decline was in durable goods.

Nonmanufacturing gained 1,200 to an estimated 44,400 employed. The largest gain was in Government as the special programs for youth summer employment began. Transportation and public utilities gained 200 workers. The only loss was 100 in wholesale and retail trade. All other segments were unchanged.

Employment is expected to show slight gains while unemployment remains relatively high over the next 60 days.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	June 1984*	May 1984**	June 1983**	Net Change From May 1984	Net Change From June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	511.2	511.2	505.2	0	+ 6.0
MANUFACTURING	40.0	39.5	41.0	+ 0.5	- 1.0
Durable Goods	23.4	23.0	23.9	+ 0.4	- 0.5
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.6	2.6	2.5	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	3.3	3.2	3.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.0	12.7	13.3	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.0	7.8	8.7	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.5	0	- 0.4
Nondurable Goods	16.6	16.5	17.1	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	7.1	6.8	7.5	+ 0.3	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.0	1.1	1.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.7	1.8	1.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	471.2	471.7	464.2	- 0.5	+ 7.0
Mining	18.4	18.5	18.6	- 0.1	- 0.2
Construction	32.0	32.9	30.6	- 0.9	+ 1.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.2	46.4	47.5	- 0.2	- 1.3
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
Water Transportation	15.5	15.8	16.1	- 0.3	- 0.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	131.7	130.9	129.2	+ 0.8	+ 2.5
Wholesale Trade	34.6	34.5	34.8	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	97.1	96.4	94.4	+ 0.7	+ 2.7
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.5	31.5	32.2	0	- 0.7
Services	124.3	127.4	121.6	- 3.1	+ 2.7
Government	87.1	84.1	84.5	+ 3.0	+ 2.6
Federal	14.9	14.8	14.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
State	19.8	20.0	19.9	- 0.2	- 0.1
Local	52.4	49.3	49.9	+ 3.1	+ 2.5

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$400.26	$403.12	$346.48	42.0	42.3	38.8	$9.53	$9.53	$8.93
Durable Goods	435.87	439.46	365.16	43.5	44.3	38.6	10.02	9.92	9.46
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	409.02	446.00	422.69	43.1	46.8	44.4	9.49	9.53	9.52
Fabricated Metal Products	503.50	487.19	404.26	51.8	51.5	41.0	9.72	9.46	9.86
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	428.87	421.34	328.65	41.8	41.8	35.0	10.26	10.08	9.39
Nondurable Goods	347.77	351.05	317.85	39.7	39.4	39.0	8.76	8.91	8.15
Food & Kindred Products	286.50	286.87	286.38	39.3	38.3	43.0	7.29	7.49	6.66
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	171.07	175.45	117.00	32.4	34.2	27.4	5.28	5.13	4.27
Paper & Allied Products	389.78	397.72	332.10	48.3	46.3	40.5	8.07	8.59	8.20
Printing & Publishing	341.38	365.92	299.92	40.4	41.3	38.9	8.45	8.86	7.71
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	580.25	579.07	531.85	40.1	39.5	37.8	14.47	14.66	14.07

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 26,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in June remained at 511,200, the same total level shown in May. Nevertheless, changes were numerous and varied. Increases in many industries and decreases in others offset each other. Manufacturing exhibited a minor overall upturn while nonmanufacturing displayed a small total downturn.

Manufacturing employment reached 40,000 in June, the highest level so far this year. The increase of 500 workers over last month's total was due to seasonal increases in seafood processing and hiring at area shipyards. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 1,000.

Nonmanufacturing exhibited a great variety of changes - both seasonal and nonseasonal in nature - which resulted in a minor overall decrease. Services were lowered by normal early summer layoffs by private educational services and adjustments at the World's Fair following the opening weeks. Construction reflected the completion of work on the fair site. Water transportation tapered off from an already reduced level. Mining eased down. More favorably, local government pushed up strongly as city and parish administrative services added summer workers. State government showed a small decrease. Retail trade increased, largely in eating and drinking places, general merchandise stores and automotive dealers and service stations. Wholesale trade edged up in durable goods. Finance registered a small gain in banking as well as in other credit agencies.

Average weekly earnings totaled $400.26 in June for area production workers, down $2.86 from last month. The decrease was due to a drop of 18 minutes in average weekly hours; average hourly earnings did not change. Average weekly earnings are up $53.78 from this same time last year.

Estimated unemployment in June increased to 46,400, up 3,000 from May. The early summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force accounted for most of the change. The lack of an overall gain in nonagricultural wage and salary employment prevented more of the jobless from finding work. Current joblessness comprises 8.5 percent of the labor force compared to 8.1 percent in May and 10.9 percent in June of last year. The unemployment rate in June was lower than the state rate of 9.4 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.4 percent. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totaled 12,400. About 44.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; approximately 33.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months will probably show an overall seasonal downturn. Both private and public educational services are expected to make further summer adjustments. Developments in water transportation will be dependent on changes in the national and world economics. The long range problems of construction and mining may prevent a seasonal upturn in each. Unemployment will likely decrease as the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force diminishes as the summer moves further along.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	June 1984*	May 1984**	June 1983**	Net Change From May 1984	Net Change From June 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	152.4	152.1	148.5	+ 0.3	+ 3.9
MANUFACTURING	25.9	25.6	22.6	+ 0.3	+ 3.3
Durable Goods	20.1	19.7	16.8	+ 0.4	+ 3.3
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Metals and Machinery	12.6	12.1	10.9	+ 0.5	+ 1.7
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.5	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	8.7	8.2	7.4	+ 0.5	+ 1.3
Other Durable Goods	6.0	6.1	4.5	- 0.1	+ 1.5
Nondurable Good	5.8	5.9	5.8	- 0.1	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.4	1.5	1.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	126.5	126.5	125.9	0	+ 0.6
Mining	6.7	6.6	6.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Construction	9.8	9.9	9.2	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.1	9.2	9.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.3	34.2	34.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade	9.3	9.2	9.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	25.0	25.0	25.3	0	- 0.3
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.2	8.1	8.2	+ 0.1	0
Services	32.4	32.3	31.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Government	26.0	26.2	27.0	- 0.2	- 1.0

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**	June '84*	May '84**	June '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$400.06	$402.41	$377.48	41.5	41.4	40.2	$9.64	$9.72	$9.37
Lumber and Wood Products	226.98	251.52	238.60	38.8	41.3	43.7	5.85	6.09	5.46
Metals and Machinery	409.19	415.68	378.95	43.3	43.3	40.4	9.45	9.60	9.38
Food and Kindred Products	227.43	197.80	202.80	36.1	31.8	33.8	6.30	6.22	6.00
Printing and Publishing	274.89	277.49	233.74	33.0	32.8	29.0	8.33	8.46	8.06
Petroleum and Coal Products	508.03	572.69	525.56	43.2	49.2	45.9	11.76	11.64	11.45

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 19,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Shreveport area has an estimated nonagricultural wage and salary employment total of 152,400, up from 152,100 last month and 148,500 for June, 1983. The employment increase from last month occurred in durable goods manufacturing. Total nonmanufacturing employment remains unchanged from last month, but shows an increase of 600 over the June, 1983 estimate.

The total manufacturing employment for this area is 25,900, an increase of 300 from last month and 3,300 more than the year ago estimate. The employment growth during the past month resulted from additional demands for communication equipment.

The nonmanufacturing employment total is estimated at 126,500, unchanged since last month, and up from 125,900 one year ago. During the past month, the small employment gains in mining, trade, finance, insurance and real estate, and services were off-set with equal losses in construction, transportation and public utilities and government.

This area has 19,700 production workers in manufacturing. These production workers had average weekly earnings of $400.06, down slightly from the revised earnings of $402.41 for last month. The average weekly earnings for June, 1983 were $377.48. The average weekly hours are nearly unchanged since last month. They are 41.5 for the current month, compared with 41.4 last month and 40.2 one year ago. Average hourly earnings dropped from $9.72 last month to $9.64, and are above the $9.37 average of June, 1983.

The civilian labor force for the Shreveport area is 175,300, including 162,000 employed and 13,300 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 7.6 percent, compared to 9.4 percent for the state, and 7.1 percent for the nation.

The present outlook for this area is for little change during the summer months. The unemployment total is expected to show a small reduction from the June total, while total employment will reflect the usual seasonal decline for July and August.

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LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

JULY 1984

RELEASE DATE:
August 27, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY JULY 1984				REVISED JUNE 1984				REVISED JULY 1983			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,953.2	1,771.3	181.9	9.3	1,965.3	1,780.1	185.2	9.4	1,934.2	1,700.3	233.9	12.1
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	78.1	70.9	7.2	9.2	78.8	71.5	7.3	9.3	77.7	68.7	9.0	11.6
Baton Rouge 2/	250.5	230.0	20.5	8.2	249.7	229.1	20.6	8.3	241.6	216.4	25.2	10.4
Lafayette 3/	98.4	92.6	5.8	5.9	98.5	92.4	6.1	6.1	97.1	88.6	8.5	8.8
Lake Charles 4/	76.5	66.2	10.3	13.5	76.9	66.4	10.5	13.7	79.3	67.9	11.4	14.4
Monroe 5/	60.8	55.1	5.7	9.3	61.1	55.4	5.7	9.3	60.9	54.3	6.6	10.9
New Orleans 6/	541.0	494.4	46.6	8.6	545.4	498.3	47.1	8.6	537.5	481.4	56.1	10.5
Shreveport 7/	171.9	159.0	12.9	7.5	176.1	162.9	13.2	7.5	171.9	152.3	19.6	11.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,573,400 for July, a decrease of 7,600 from June's level, but 7,500 above the comparable period a year ago. Louisiana's nonagricultural employment decline for July was centered in the services and government segments of nonmanufacturing. A drop in nondurable goods payrolls resulted in lower employment for the state's manufacturing industries.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Durable goods employment for July, at 83,600, was 200 above last month and 3,500 higher than the same month a year ago. A drop in household furniture payrolls primarily accounted for the decrease in furniture and fixtures employment. More need for concrete, gypsum and plaster products accounted for the increase in stone, clay and glass products employment. Primary metal industries employment fell as a result of less business for firms producing primary nonferrous metals. Less business for establishments that manufacture engines and turbines contributed to the downturn in machinery, except electrical, payrolls. Production of communication equipment rose in July, resulting in higher employment for the electric and electronic equipment industry. Transportation equipment employment edged up for the current month.

Nondurable goods employment, at 98,300, was 300 lower than last month and 1,500 below the July a year ago figure. Food and kindred products employment declined in July due mostly to less activity in sugar refining and less business for certain miscellaneous food processors. Employment in the apparel and other textile products industry was down largely as a result of cutbacks by some miscellaneous apparel and accessories manufacturers. More business for many segments of the paper and allied products industry resulted in higher employment for the current month. Increased demand for industrial inorganic chemicals accounted for the upturn in chemicals and allied products employment. A temporary shutdown by a firm in the leather products industry was largely responsible for the lower employment in other nondurable goods.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,391,500 for the current month, was 7,500 below last month's level but 5,500 higher than July a year ago. Mining employment was down as a result of a slowdown in the exploration for oil and gas. An upturn in general building construction contributed most to the higher construction payrolls in July. Increased port activity and more business for the trucking and warehousing industry were largely responsible for the higher transportation and public utilities employment. Trade employment moved up due mostly to more business in the food stores segment of retail trade. Banking was among the areas contributing to the increase in finance, insurance and real estate employment. Less business for hotels and other lodging places was instrumental in the lower payrolls for services this month. Also significant were employment losses in commercial sports, hospitals, educational services and social services. Government employment for July was lower primarily as a result of seasonal decreases in state and local education.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 126,400 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $418.84 in June to $414.10 in July, a decrease of $4.74, but an increase of $14.51 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were eight cents higher in July than last month and $0.16 more than July of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.0 for the current month, down by 0.8 hours from June's figure.

Total unemployment in Louisiana was estimated at 181,900 for July, a decrease of 3,300 below the June level of 185,200. The unemployment rate for July was 9.3 percent compared to 9.4 percent last month and 12.1 percent in July of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for July was 7.5 percent compared to 7.4 percent in June and 9.4 percent in July a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,965,300 in June to 1,953,200 in July, a decrease of 12,100. Total employment for the state went from 1,780,100 in June to 1,771,300 in July, a decrease of 8,800.

The state's unemployment rate is expected to show little change next month. The government sector of nonmanufacturing will probably experience an employment decline next month. Manufacturing employment may fall below the present level next month.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1984*	June 1984**	July 1983**	Net Change from	
				June 1984	July 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,573.4	1,581.0	1,565.9	- 7.6	+ 7.5
MINING AND QUARRYING	78.1	78.6	79.2	- 0.5	- 1.1
Oil and Gas Extraction	75.0	75.5	76.0	- 0.5	- 1.0
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	114.3	114.2	116.8	+ 0.1	- 2.5
MANUFACTURING	181.9	182.0	179.9	- 0.1	+ 2.0
Durable Goods	83.6	83.4	80.1	+ 0.2	+ 3.5
Lumber and Wood Products	13.6	13.6	13.2	0	+ 0.4
Furniture and Fixtures	0.6	0.7	0.8	- 0.1	- 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.9	7.8	7.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.6	3.5	- 0.2	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	13.4	13.4	13.4	0	0
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.8	9.9	9.5	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Electric & Electronic Equipment	11.1	10.7	8.2	+ 0.4	+ 2.9
Transportation Equipment	21.3	21.2	21.8	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.5	2.5	2.0	0	+ 0.5
Nondurable Goods	98.3	98.6	99.8	- 0.3	- 1.5
Food & Kindred Products	22.2	22.6	23.4	- 0.4	- 1.2
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.1	9.3	8.4	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Paper & Allied Products	11.8	11.5	11.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Printing & Publishing	9.8	9.8	9.7	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	29.2	29.1	30.1	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.4	12.4	12.9	0	- 0.5
Petroleum Refining	11.7	11.7	12.2	0	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.8	3.9	3.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	117.0	116.7	118.9	+ 0.3	- 1.9
Railroad Transportation	7.6	7.6	7.1	0	+ 0.5
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.9	67.2	69.3	+ 0.7	- 1.4
Communications & Public Utilities	41.5	41.9	42.5	- 0.4	- 1.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	376.8	376.7	371.8	+ 0.1	+ 5.0
Wholesale Trade	95.4	95.4	95.3	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	281.4	281.3	276.5	+ 0.1	+ 4.9
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	56.9	57.2	58.5	- 0.3	- 1.6
Food Stores	52.5	51.6	51.0	+ 0.9	+ 1.5
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.2	30.9	30.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	88.5	89.0	84.1	- 0.5	+ 4.4
Other Retail Trade	52.3	52.6	52.2	- 0.3	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.2	84.0	83.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
Banking	28.2	28.1	28.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
SERVICES	310.2	312.1	304.0	- 1.9	+ 6.2
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.6	23.4	21.2	- 0.8	+ 1.4
Other Services	287.6	288.7	282.8	- 1.1	+ 4.8
GOVERNMENT	310.9	316.7	311.6	- 5.8	- 0.7
Federal	34.6	34.6	34.4	0	+ 0.2
State and Local	276.3	282.1	277.2	- 5.8	- 0.9
State	94.6	95.5	96.0	- 0.9	- 1.4
Local	181.7	186.6	181.2	- 4.9	+ 0.5

* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$414.10	$418.84	$399.59	41.0	41.8	40.2	$10.10	$10.02	$9.94
Durable Goods	386.87	392.60	365.92	41.2	41.9	40.3	9.39	9.37	9.08
Lumber & Wood Products	324.10	325.28	277.98	38.4	38.0	40.7	8.44	8.56	6.83
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	381.24	387.05	370.80	40.3	42.3	40.0	9.46	9.15	9.27
Fabricated Metal Products	415.42	375.76	390.62	45.5	44.0	41.6	9.13	8.54	9.39
Machinery, ex. Electrical	408.62	393.23	383.94	41.4	41.7	40.5	9.87	9.43	9.48
Electric & Electronic Equip.	365.34	436.74	396.79	39.2	43.5	39.6	9.32	10.04	10.02
Transportation Equipment	447.20	456.88	392.85	41.6	42.5	40.5	10.75	10.75	9.70
Nondurable Goods	439.82	444.33	433.60	40.8	41.8	40.0	10.78	10.63	10.84
Food & Kindred Products	264.75	274.40	238.70	37.5	40.0	34.1	7.06	6.86	7.00
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	180.07	179.58	161.45	35.8	36.5	37.9	5.03	4.92	4.26
Paper & Allied Products	446.42	520.93	565.45	40.4	44.6	45.2	11.05	11.68	12.51
Printing & Publishing	313.79	299.40	318.05	37.4	37.1	36.6	8.39	8.07	8.69
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	643.97	635.21	611.61	43.6	43.3	42.8	14.77	14.67	14.29
Petroleum & Coal Products	673.48	657.75	662.68	46.9	45.9	48.3	14.36	14.33	13.72
Petroleum Refining	683.80	667.92	678.13	46.9	46.0	48.3	14.58	14.52	14.04
MINING	561.12	554.11	521.44	48.0	48.1	45.7	11.69	11.52	11.41
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	426.92	458.87	462.53	38.6	40.5	39.6	11.06	11.33	11.68
BANKING	234.75	239.27	218.86	37.5	38.1	37.8	6.26	6.28	5.79

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 126,400 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 103,300 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY JULY 1984				REVISED JUNE 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	24,375	21,600	2,775	11.4	24,575	21,800	2,775	11.3
Oakdale (Allen)	6,525	5,325	1,200	18.5	6,600	5,350	1,250	18.8
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,725	9,450	1,275	11.8	10,675	9,425	1,250	11.7
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,575	11,175	1,400	11.1	12,375	10,975	1,400	11.3
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,400	6,750	650	8.6	7,400	6,750	650	8.8
Columbia (Caldwell)	4,900	4,450	450	9.3	4,900	4,450	450	9.2
Cameron (Cameron)	4,925	4,600	325	6.7	4,975	4,625	350	6.9
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,450	5,800	650	10.1	6,625	5,925	700	10.5
Homer (Claiborne)	7,575	7,000	575	7.6	7,600	7,000	600	8.0
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,825	8,700	1,125	11.3	9,800	8,600	1,200	12.2
Mansfield (DeSoto)	12,075	10,775	1,300	10.8	12,000	10,750	1,250	10.4
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,350	4,575	775	14.4	5,375	4,600	775	14.4
Clinton (East Feliciana)	8,250	7,525	725	8.7	8,300	7,575	725	8.8
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,525	12,675	1,850	12.7	14,675	12,775	1,900	12.9
Winnsboro (Franklin)	8,825	7,675	1,150	13.1	8,950	7,775	1,175	13.0
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,550	32,600	3,950	10.8	36,750	32,675	4,075	11.1
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,575	13,900	1,675	10.8	15,575	13,900	1,675	10.8
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,475	5,975	500	7.7	6,475	5,975	500	7.7
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,300	11,600	1,700	12.7	13,575	11,775	1,800	13.2
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	38,975	35,325	3,650	9.3	39,200	35,450	3,750	9.5
Jena (LaSalle)	6,325	5,800	525	8.3	6,250	5,725	525	8.4
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,425	20,550	875	4.1	21,475	20,575	900	4.2
Tallulah (Madison)	5,500	4,875	625	11.5	5,650	4,925	725	12.7
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,150	11,725	1,425	10.9	13,050	11,650	1,400	10.7
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,700	16,325	1,375	7.7	17,725	16,375	1,350	7.6
Pointe-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,775	13,750	1,025	6.9	14,825	13,800	1,025	6.9
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	13,650	12,275	1,375	10.1	13,550	12,200	1,350	10.0
Coushatta (Red River)	4,400	4,050	350	7.8	4,450	4,025	425	9.7
Rayville (Richland)	8,400	7,475	925	11.1	8,450	7,500	950	11.3
Many (Sabine)	8,325	7,650	675	8.0	8,350	7,675	675	8.1
Hahnville (St. Charles)	22,700	20,450	2,250	9.9	22,650	20,375	2,275	10.0
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,550	4,150	400	9.0	4,600	4,225	375	8.2
[illegible] (St. James)	11,875	10,425	1,450	12.2	11,800	10,325	1,475	12.5
LaPlace (St. John)	18,450	16,300	2,150	11.7	18,325	16,250	2,075	11.6
[illegible] (St. Landry)	35,625	30,150	5,475	15.4	36,075	30,400	5,675	15.7
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,050	17,525	2,525	12.6	20,200	17,575	2,625	13.0
Morgan City (St. Mary)	33,075	29,225	3,850	11.7	33,275	29,300	3,975	11.9
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	35,650	30,525	5,125	14.4	35,800	30,725	5,075	14.2
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,150	2,825	325	10.3	3,225	2,900	325	10.4
Houma (Terrebonne)	46,450	42,275	4,175	9.0	46,425	42,075	4,350	9.4
Farmerville (Union)	7,975	7,225	750	9.5	7,950	7,175	775	9.7
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,750	23,125	2,625	10.2	26,225	23,300	2,925	11.2
Leesville (Vernon)	12,750	11,450	1,300	10.3	12,700	11,375	1,325	10.4
Bogalusa (Washington)	15,025	12,975	2,050	13.6	15,050	12,925	2,125	14.1
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,250	3,450	800	18.9	4,475	3,525	950	21.4
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	4,000	3,750	250	6.0	3,950	3,700	250	6.1
Winnfield (Winn)	5,850	5,325	525	9.1	5,900	5,350	550	9.2

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1984*	June 1984**	July 1983**	Net Change From June 1984	Net Change From July 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	53.9	53.9	53.6	0	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	5.3	5.3	5.2	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Nondurable Goods	2.5	2.5	2.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.6	48.6	48.4	0	+ 0.2
Construction	3.5	3.4	3.6	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.7	12.7	12.5	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
Retail Trade	10.0	10.0	9.8	0	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Services & Mining	11.6	11.6	11.5	0	+ 0.1
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.2	0	0
Other Services & Mining	6.4	6.4	6.3	0	+ 0.1
Government	15.4	15.5	15.4	- 0.1	0
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
State	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Local	6.8	6.9	6.8	- 0.1	0

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Alexandria area has an estimated nonagricultural employment of 53,900 during July. This employment estimate is the same as last month and 300 more than this month a year ago.

Total employment in manufacturing remained unchanged since the previous month. Since July of last year employment in manufacturing has increased 100 and the gain was in nondurable goods.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing is unchanged since the June estimate of 48,600 and this estimate is 200 more than July of last year. Although the total is unchanged there was a gain in construction, but an offsetting decrease in government. The gains since last year were in retail trade and services with a slight decrease in construction.

During the next thirty days total employment should increase slightly, with the unemployment rate decreasing.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1984*	June 1984**	July 1983**	Net Change From June 1984	Net Change From July 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	210.7	208.7	203.5	+ 2.0	+ 7.2
MANUFACTURING	22.3	22.3	22.4	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	4.5	4.4	3.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.1	1.0	0.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.6	0	+ 0.4
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.9	18.5	- 0.1	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.1	13.1	13.8	0	- 0.7
Other Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.1	1.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	188.4	186.4	181.1	+ 2.0	+ 7.3
Mining	0.9	1.0	0.9	- 0.1	0
Construction	21.2	20.5	20.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.6
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.7	9.8	10.2	- 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	51.2	51.2	48.1	0	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	11.2	11.5	11.2	- 0.3	0
Retail Trade	40.0	39.7	36.9	+ 0.3	+ 3.1
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.6	12.5	12.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	40.3	40.1	38.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.9
Government	52.5	51.3	50.4	+ 1.2	+ 2.1

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$508.96	$516.47	$488.87	43.8	44.6	42.4	$11.62	$11.58	$11.53
Petro-Chemicals	678.30	670.05	640.46	45.8	45.8	44.6	14.81	14.63	14.36

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 210,700 during July, was up 2,000 over June's revised estimate of 208,700 and up 7,200 over the total for last July. Manufacturing had no change and nonmanufacturing was up 2,000 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing at 188,400 during July, was up 2,000 over June's revised estimate. Mining had some slight downward adjustments. Transportation and public utilities were down due to the closing of a department in trucking, local and long distance, and less business in telephone communication (wire or radio). Less business and downward seasonal adjustments moved wholesale trade down; however, this drop was offset by retail trade increases due to continued seasonal increases and additional employment in a new supermarket. Construction was up due to more business in building construction and special trade contractors. Finance, insurance, and real estate were up due to more business in all three segments. Services were up due to increases in veterinary services, health services, membership organizations, and miscellaneous services. Government was up due to increases in state and local government.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,500 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $508.96 in July, down $7.51 from June's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 0.8 hours and average hourly earnings were up four cents. Less overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's was estimated at 250,500 during July, up 800 over June's revised estimate and up 8,900 over July of last year. Unemployment at 20,500 was down 100 during the current period and dropped 4,700 since last July. The current unemployment rate at 8.2 percent is down 0.1 percent from last month and down from the 10.4 percent recorded last July. The statewide unemployment rate was 9.4 percent during July. The local civilian labor force increased 800 during July and 8,900 since last July.

The July 4th weekend opening of Catfish Town, a shopping mall and tourist attraction located in a rejuvenated downtown warehouse district, gave the local economy a tremendous boost by attracting a larger attendance than the New Orleans Worlds Fair during the opening period.

The unemployment rate is expected to continue its seasonal high during the coming month.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 2,400 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 458 applicants in jobs during July.

The consumer price index for June, 1984 for all urban consumers was 310.7 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 306.2 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1984*	June 1984**	July 1983**	Net Change From	
				June 1984	July 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	89.2	88.5	87.4	+ 0.7	+ 1.8
MANUFACTURING	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	85.4	84.7	83.7	+ 0.7	+ 1.7
Mining	16.3	16.7	15.5	- 0.4	+ 0.8
Construction	5.3	5.0	5.4	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.8	6.8	6.7	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.7	24.0	23.4	+ 0.7	+ 1.3
Wholesale Trade	6.7	6.6	6.7	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	18.0	17.4	16.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	2.6	0	+ 0.3
Food Stores	2.8	2.6	2.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Retail Trade	10.8	10.4	10.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.6
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.9	3.8	3.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Services	18.7	18.7	18.8	0	- 0.1
Government	9.7	9.7	10.1	0	- 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during July stood at 89,200, an increase of 700 from June and 1,800 over the same period of time a year ago. The increase was in the nonmanufacturing segment. The area responsible for the increase was trade.

Manufacturing has remained stable from the previous month and same period of time a year ago.

Mining stood at 16,300, a decrease of 400 from the previous month but an increase of 800 from the same period a year ago.

The wholesale trade has stood at about the same level from a month ago.

Retail trade has increased 600 from the previous month and 1,300 from July of 1983. Two or three new shopping centers are responsible for this increase.

Services and government remained stable with no fluctuation.

Residential construction has decreased but commercial construction has taken up the slack. High interest rates will keep residential construction down.

The oil industry continues its lengthy slowdown. From all indication a recovery will be slow.

Other areas of the economy in the Lafayette area continue to function in a healthy fashion thus stimulating the overall picture.

The unemployment rate should remain stable over the next month but should decline when school starts as summer job seekers give up their search for work in order to go back to school.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1984*	June 1984**	July 1983**	Net Change From June 1984	Net Change From July 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.8	58.6	61.9	+ 0.2	- 3.1
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.2	9.7	0	- 0.5
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.3	0.3	0.2	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	8.9	0	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet Products	7.5	7.5	8.0	0	- 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.6	49.4	52.2	+ 0.2	- 2.6
Mining	2.1	2.2	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Construction	4.7	4.5	6.7	+ 0.2	- 2.0
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.7	4.6	4.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.8	13.9	14.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.4	3.3	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.5	10.5	11.0	0	- 0.5
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	2.4	0	- 0.4
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.4	3.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.7	10.7	10.9	0	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.6	10.5	10.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

July payroll employment, in the Lake Charles Area, edged upward 200 over the June level. All of the increase occurred in nonmanufacturing establishments. The current payroll employment total of 58,800 falls 3,100 below the July 1983 level. Manufacturing fell by 2,600.

Nonfactory employment climbed 200 above the mid-June level as small declines in some establishment groups were offset by increases in others. In the 2,600 loss from a year ago, Construction suffered the most with a decline of 2,000 jobs, and Trade followed with a loss of 500 jobs, while Mining fell by 200.

The outlook is for a continued downturn in unemployment as summer job seekers continue to abandon their search for work in preparation for return to school. Little change is expected in employment.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1984*	June 1984**	July 1983**	Net Change From June 1984	Net Change From July 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	506.8	508.6	505.9	- 1.8	+ 0.9
MANUFACTURING	39.9	40.0	41.1	- 0.1	- 1.2
Durable Goods	23.4	23.5	24.2	- 0.1	- 0.8
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.7	2.6	2.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.4	3.4	- 0.2	- 0.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.8	2.9	2.8	- 0.1	0
Transportation Equipment	13.1	13.0	13.7	+ 0.1	- 0.6
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.1	8.1	9.0	0	- 0.9
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.4	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	16.5	16.5	16.9	0	- 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	7.0	7.1	7.3	- 0.1	- 0.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	1.8	1.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.0	1.1	+ 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	3.1	3.2	3.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	466.9	468.6	464.8	- 1.7	+ 2.1
Mining	18.5	18.4	18.5	+ 0.1	0
Construction	28.6	28.5	31.1	+ 0.1	- 2.5
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.0	46.0	47.7	0	- 1.7
Railroad Transportation	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Water Transportation	15.8	15.5	16.4	+ 0.3	- 0.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	131.8	132.2	129.5	- 0.4	+ 2.3
Wholesale Trade	34.7	34.9	34.9	- 0.2	- 0.2
Retail Trade	97.1	97.3	94.6	- 0.2	+ 2.5
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.5	31.7	32.1	- 0.2	- 0.6
Services	124.6	124.5	122.0	+ 0.1	+ 2.6
Government	85.9	87.3	83.9	- 1.4	+ 2.0
Federal	15.1	15.1	14.8	0	+ 0.3
State	19.7	19.8	20.0	- 0.1	- 0.3
Local	51.1	52.4	49.1	- 1.3	+ 2.0

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$383.39	$392.70	$347.90	40.7	42.0	38.4	$9.42	$9.35	$9.06
Durable Goods	413.14	421.31	369.87	42.2	43.3	39.9	9.79	9.73	9.27
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	398.64	402.23	384.30	44.0	46.5	42.0	9.06	8.65	9.15
Fabricated Metal Products	459.30	434.73	406.96	49.6	47.1	40.9	9.26	9.23	9.95
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	409.46	427.61	356.59	40.5	41.8	39.1	10.11	10.23	9.12
Nondurable Goods	342.88	352.15	313.92	38.7	40.2	36.0	8.86	8.76	8.72
Food & Kindred Products	280.52	287.56	259.35	38.8	39.5	35.0	7.23	7.28	7.41
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	147.74	170.80	118.53	31.3	35.0	28.7	4.72	4.88	4.13
Paper & Allied Products	354.88	392.52	338.23	42.5	48.4	40.8	8.35	8.11	8.29
Printing & Publishing	338.45	364.62	294.14	38.2	41.2	38.4	8.86	8.85	7.66
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	576.22	583.05	568.42	41.1	40.1	38.2	14.02	14.54	14.88

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 26,300 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in July moved down to 506,800, a level 1,800 below June. Normal seasonal changes in nonmanufacturing in government accounted for most of the overall decrease. Manufacturing showed only scattered small changes.

Manufacturing employment totaled 39,900 in July, 100 less than last month. Nondurable goods held steady with minor fluctuations offsetting each other. In the durable goods sector, increases in transportation equipment and stone, clay and glass products were not large enough to overcome layoffs in fabricated metal products and machinery. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 1,200.

Nonmanufacturing was lowered by a variety of decreases, mostly seasonal in nature. Local government reflected further summer downward adjustments by the public schools~~.~~ ~~State~~ government tapered off to the lowest level this year. Both retail trade and wholesale trade showed decreases. Banking effected layoffs. More favorably services edged up, with gains in personal services, legal services, and miscellaneous services offsetting a summer downturn in private educational services and cutbacks in amusement services. Construction gained slightly in the best season of the year for outside work. Mining pushed up. Transportation held steady as an upturn in water transportation was balanced by a downturn in motor freight transportation.

Estimated unemployment in July decreased to 46,600, down 500 from June. A reduction in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force was mostly responsible. Current joblessness accounts for 8.6 percent of the labor force compared to 8.6 percent in June and 10.5 percent in July of last year. The unemployment rate of 8.6 percent in July was lower than the state rate of 9.3 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.5 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 13,133. Approximately 44.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; about 33.0 percent were female.

Area production workers earned an average $383.39 a week in July, down $9.31 from last month. The drop of one hour and 18 minutes in average weekly hours caused the decrease. Average hourly earnings increased slightly. Factory workers earned an average $35.49 a week more than this time last year.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to show an overall increase. Both public and private educational services will pull back up from the mid-summer low as the autumn school term begins. Construction and mining will probably add small numbers of workers. Trade will benefit from back-to-school shopping. Unemployment is predicted to decrease as many persons who recently entered and reentered the labor force will withdraw to return to school.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1984*	June 1984**	July 1983**	Net Change From June 1984	Net Change From July 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	149.9	152.6	146.7	- 2.7	+ 3.2
MANUFACTURING	26.5	26.1	23.6	+ 0.4	+ 2.9
Durable Goods	20.7	20.3	17.8	+ 0.4	+ 2.9
Lumber and Wood Products	1.6	1.5	1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Metals and Machinery	13.0	12.7	11.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.0
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	3.7	0	+ 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	9.1	8.8	7.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.8
Other Durable Goods	6.1	6.1	5.3	0	+ 0.8
Nondurable Good	5.8	5.8	5.8	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.5	1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.1	1.0	- 0.1	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	123.4	126.5	123.1	- 3.1	+ 0.3
Mining	6.6	6.8	5.9	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Construction	9.6	9.9	9.3	- 0.3	+ 0.3
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.4	9.2	9.4	+ 0.2	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.5	34.2	34.5	+ 0.3	0
Wholesale Trade	9.3	9.3	9.1	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	25.2	24.9	25.4	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.2	8.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Services	32.5	32.3	31.5	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
Government	22.7	25.9	24.3	- 3.2	- 1.6

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**	July '84*	June '84**	July '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$378.90	$397.58	$389.42	39.8	41.2	39.9	$9.52	$9.65	$9.76
Lumber and Wood Products	225.42	226.98	229.35	39.0	38.8	41.7	5.78	5.85	5.50
Metals and Machinery	346.24	408.24	387.28	38.6	43.2	40.3	8.97	9.45	9.61
Food and Kindred Products	270.93	227.43	199.71	41.3	36.1	31.5	6.56	6.30	6.34
Printing and Publishing	248.93	274.89	236.32	31.0	33.0	28.0	8.03	8.33	8.44
Petroleum and Coal Products	578.40	560.60	551.26	48.2	46.6	47.4	12.00	12.03	11.63

Data [illegible] the average earnings table are for approximately 20,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The total nonagricultural wage and salary employment for the Shreveport area is estimated at 149,900, down from the revised June estimate of 152,600. This decrease from June to July occurred in the nonmanufacturing sector and reflects the seasonal employment decline in educational services with schools closing for the summer.

Total manufacturing employment increased to 26,500, up from 26,100 last month and 2,900 more than one year ago. Durable goods employment shows a gain of 400 over the past month. Contributing most to this gain was a stronger demand for electrical machinery and equipment with a slight increased demand for lumber and wood products.

The total nonmanufacturing employment for this area is estimated at 123,400, compared with the revised June estimate of 126,500 and the year ago estimate of 123,100. During the past month, employment in mining activities dropped from 6,800 to 6,600. Reduced construction activity resulted in an employment decline of 300. Finance, insurance and real estate had a loss of 100. The most significant employment loss was in government with a decline of 3,200 from the previous month as employment in local education dropped during the summer school break from 10,100 to 6,700.

There are 20,600 production workers in this area with average weekly earnings of $378.90. Average weekly hours were 39.8, down from the average weekly hours of 41.2 for the previous month. The average hourly earnings dropped from $9.65 last month to $9.52 for July.

The Shreveport area has a civilian labor force of 171,900 consisting of 159,000 employed and 12,900 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 7.5 percent. The unemployment rate for July, 1983 was 11.4 percent.

Employment should remain near the present level through August. Total unemployment is expected to continue to decline with the unemployment rate returning to near the 7.0 percent range in September.

10/5/84 S3320-2 A

LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

AUGUST 1984

RELEASE DATE:
SEPTEMBER 25, 1984

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 1984				REVISED JULY 1984				REVISED AUGUST 1983			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,964.3	1,781.9	182.4	9.3	1,954.9	1,771.1	183.8	9.4	1,927.9	1,703.1	224.8	11.7
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	79.4	72.0	7.4	9.3	78.1	70.9	7.2	9.2	77.9	69.3	8.6	11.1
Baton Rouge 2/	251.0	230.3	20.7	8.3	250.1	229.3	20.8	8.3	240.8	216.9	23.9	9.9
Lafayette 3/	97.4	91.7	5.7	5.9	98.2	92.4	5.8	5.9	95.8	87.4	8.4	8.7
Lake Charles 4/	76.0	66.0	10.0	13.2	76.3	65.9	10.4	13.6	78.9	67.5	11.4	14.4
Monroe 5/	60.7	55.1	5.6	9.2	60.3	54.6	5.7	9.5	60.0	53.6	6.4	10.7
New Orleans 6/	544.4	497.0	47.4	8.7	542.6	495.5	47.1	8.7	534.4	479.1	55.3	10.4
Shreveport 7/	171.1	158.3	12.8	7.5	172.8	159.8	13.0	7.5	172.3	153.7	18.6	10.8

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,568,900 for August, a decrease of 4,200 workers below July's level but 13,600 above the comparable period a year ago. A decrease in the state's nonmanufacturing employment was responsible for the downturn in total nonagricultural payrolls. August payrolls in manufacturing were up as a result of increases in both durable goods and nondurable goods employees.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing was up by 500 workers from July's level. Increased activity at sawmills and planing mills and more need for millwork, plywood and structural members resulted in an increase in employment for the lumber and wood products industry. Furniture and fixtures employment was higher for August due to an upturn in the manufacture of household furniture. Employment edged upward in primary metal industries as production of primary nonferrous metals was increased. More demand for fabricated structural metal products accounted for the increase in fabricated metal products employment. Increased need for construction and related machinery and for refrigeration and service machinery was responsible for the higher employment level in the machinery, except electrical, industry. Lower production of household appliances accounted for the lower employment level in the electric and electronic equipment industry.

Total nondurable goods employment for August, at 98,900, was up by 700 from the July level, but 1,100 lower than August a year ago. A seasonal increase in sweet potato canning was a large factor in the rise of employment in the food and kindred products industry. Employment in the printing and publishing segment of nondurable goods fell in August as newspaper publishers showed less activity. Contributing to lower payroll levels in chemicals and allied products were cutbacks in the manufacture of industrial organic chemicals, agricultural chemicals, and soaps, cleaners and toilet goods. A decrease in petroleum and coal products industry employment was centered in the petroleum refining segment. Increased activity in the leather and leather products industry largely accounted for the upward turn in other nondurable goods payrolls.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during August was 1,385,800, a decrease of 5,400 from the July figure of 1,391,200. Decreased production of crude petroleum and natural gas led to decreases in oil and gas extraction employment for August. Construction moved down due in large part to payroll cutbacks in heavy construction. An increase in activity at the state's ports was instrumental in the increase of transportation, except railroads, employment. Less business for eating and drinking places and for certain miscellaneous retail outlets contributed to lower retail trade employment for August. Payroll cutbacks in the durable goods sector accounted for most of the drop in wholesale trade employment. Insurance agents, brokers and services was among the segments of finance, insurance and real estate that lost employment in August. Among the segments of services contributing to payroll losses in this area of nonmanufacturing were health services, social services and membership organizations. Estimated government employment this month was lower as a result of a decline in state government employment.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 128,900 production workers in manufacturing increased from $419.80 in July to $419.98 in August, an increase of $0.18 and an increase of $31.30 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were two cents lower in August than last month and $0.28 more than August of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.5 for August, an increase of 0.1 hours from July's figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for August amounted to 182,400, a decrease of 1,400 from the July level of 183,800. The unemployment rate for August was 9.3 percent, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points below last month's rate and 2.4 percentage points lower than August of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for August was 7.3 percent compared to 7.5 percent in July and 9.2 percent in August of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force increased from 1,954,900 in July to 1,964,300 in August, an increase of 9,400. Total employment, at 1,781,900, was up by 10,800 from last month and 78,800 higher than August a year ago.

The state's unemployment rate is expected to continue its decline during the next month as students leave the labor force to return to school. Total nonagricultural employment for Louisiana is expected to experience a seasonal upturn in September.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change from July 1984	Net Change from August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,568.9	1,573.1	1,555.3	- 4.2	+ 13.6
MINING AND QUARRYING	77.2	78.2	78.7	- 1.0	- 1.5
Oil and Gas Extraction	74.1	75.1	75.5	- 1.0	- 1.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	112.2	113.9	116.7	- 1.7	- 4.5
MANUFACTURING	183.1	181.9	179.4	+ 1.2	+ 3.7
Durable Goods	84.2	83.7	79.4	+ 0.5	+ 4.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.7	13.6	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.6	0.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.9	7.9	7.8	0	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.4	3.5	+ 0.1	0
Fabricated Metal Products	13.5	13.4	13.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Machinery, Except Electrical	10.0	9.9	9.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Electric & Electronic Equipment	10.9	11.0	8.2	- 0.1	+ 2.7
Transportation Equipment	21.3	21.3	21.3	0	0
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.6	2.6	2.0	0	+ 0.6
Nondurable Goods	98.9	98.2	100.0	+ 0.7	- 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	23.3	22.2	23.4	+ 1.1	- 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.2	9.2	8.6	0	+ 0.6
Paper & Allied Products	11.8	11.8	11.5	0	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	9.7	9.8	9.7	- 0.1	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	28.9	29.0	30.1	- 0.1	- 1.2
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.0	12.4	12.9	- 0.4	- 0.9
Petroleum Refining	11.3	11.7	12.3	- 0.4	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	3.8	3.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	116.9	116.3	112.2	+ 0.6	+ 4.7
Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.5	7.1	0	+ 0.4
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.8	67.3	68.8	+ 0.5	- 1.0
Communications & Public Utilities	41.6	41.5	36.3	+ 0.1	+ 5.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	375.5	376.8	372.4	- 1.3	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	95.1	95.6	95.1	- 0.5	0
Retail Trade	280.4	281.2	277.3	- 0.8	+ 3.1
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.4	56.8	59.1	+ 0.6	- 1.7
Food Stores	52.5	52.6	50.8	- 0.1	+ 1.7
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.8	31.1	30.7	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	87.9	88.4	84.7	- 0.5	+ 3.2
Other Retail Trade	51.8	52.3	52.0	- 0.5	- 0.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.9	84.1	83.7	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Banking	28.1	28.2	27.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
SERVICES	308.9	310.0	304.0	- 1.1	+ 4.9
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.7	22.6	21.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Other Services	286.2	287.4	282.7	- 1.2	+ 3.5
GOVERNMENT	311.2	311.9	308.2	- 0.7	+ 3.0
Federal	34.7	34.6	34.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
State and Local	276.5	277.3	274.2	- 0.8	+ 2.3
State	94.6	95.5	95.5	- 0.9	- 0.9
Local	181.9	181.8	178.7	+ 0.1	+ 3.2

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* Preliminary **Revised

(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries

(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$419.98	$419.80	$388.68	41.5	41.4	39.5	$10.12	$10.14	$9.84
Durable Goods	398.16	387.50	351.12	42.0	41.4	39.1	9.48	9.36	8.98
Lumber & Wood Products	334.84	324.86	277.50	39.3	38.4	39.7	8.52	8.46	6.99
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	365.82	387.86	355.45	42.0	41.0	43.4	8.71	9.46	8.19
Fabricated Metal Products	412.67	421.67	370.40	45.7	46.8	39.7	9.03	9.01	9.33
Machinery, ex. Electrical	396.76	393.72	368.24	41.2	40.8	38.6	9.63	9.65	9.54
Electric & Electronic Equip.	429.52	370.51	377.72	41.3	39.5	38.9	10.40	9.38	9.71
Transportation Equipment	450.19	448.86	374.68	41.8	41.6	38.0	10.77	10.79	9.86
Nondurable Goods	441.16	450.85	426.26	41.0	41.4	39.8	10.76	10.89	10.71
Food & Kindred Products	260.44	267.96	246.05	37.8	38.5	35.2	6.89	6.96	6.99
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	171.34	171.62	176.40	34.2	34.6	39.2	5.01	4.96	4.50
Paper & Allied Products	533.82	539.90	536.99	43.4	43.4	43.8	12.30	12.44	12.26
Printing & Publishing	314.34	319.13	312.84	37.6	37.5	36.0	8.36	8.51	8.69
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	632.02	637.71	598.21	43.2	43.5	41.6	14.63	14.66	14.38
Petroleum & Coal Products	672.60	669.73	640.19	47.5	47.6	46.9	14.16	14.07	13.65
Petroleum Refining	691.20	679.25	654.72	48.1	47.6	46.9	14.37	14.27	13.96
MINING	536.33	549.84	512.90	46.8	47.4	46.0	11.46	11.60	11.15
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	461.71	457.20	395.55	39.7	40.0	33.1	11.63	11.43	11.95
BANKING	239.27	243.76	221.03	37.8	39.7	37.4	6.33	6.14	5.91

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(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 128,900 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 103,000 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 1984				REVISED JULY 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	24,775	22,050	2,725	11.0	24,375	21,600	2,775	11.4
Oakdale (Allen)	6,500	5,375	1,125	17.2	6,575	5,325	1,250	19.0
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,925	9,625	1,300	11.9	10,725	9,450	1,275	11.9
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,600	11,200	1,400	11.1	12,600	11,175	1,425	11.2
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,500	6,850	650	8.5	7,400	6,750	650	8.8
Columbia (Caldwell)	5,025	4,575	450	8.7	4,900	4,450	450	9.3
Cameron (Cameron)	5,025	4,700	325	6.4	4,925	4,600	325	6.7
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,625	6,000	625	9.4	6,450	5,800	650	10.1
Homer (Claiborne)	7,700	7,100	600	7.6	7,600	7,000	600	8.0
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,950	8,850	1,100	11.0	9,825	8,700	1,125	11.4
Mansfield (DeSoto)	12,025	10,875	1,150	9.6	12,075	10,750	1,325	10.9
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,500	4,750	750	13.7	5,350	4,575	775	14.5
Clinton (East Feliciana)	8,425	7,675	750	8.8	8,275	7,525	750	8.9
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,750	12,925	1,825	12.4	14,525	12,675	1,850	12.8
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,025	7,850	1,175	12.9	8,825	7,650	1,175	13.2
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,575	32,600	3,975	10.9	36,550	32,575	3,975	10.9
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,825	14,075	1,750	11.0	15,575	13,875	1,700	11.0
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,475	6,000	475	7.4	6,450	5,950	500	7.7
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,550	11,825	1,725	12.8	13,300	11,600	1,700	12.8
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	39,325	35,775	3,550	9.0	38,975	35,300	3,675	9.4
Jena (LaSalle)	6,400	5,875	525	8.3	6,325	5,800	525	8.4
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,550	20,625	925	4.3	21,425	20,525	900	4.2
Tallulah (Madison)	5,700	5,050	650	11.5	5,525	4,875	650	11.6
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,250	11,825	1,425	10.7	13,125	11,700	1,425	10.9
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,750	16,425	1,325	7.5	17,700	16,325	1,375	7.8
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,725	13,750	975	6.6	14,750	13,725	1,025	7.0
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	13,950	12,550	1,400	10.0	13,650	12,250	1,400	10.2
Coushatta (Red River)	4,450	4,100	350	7.8	4,400	4,050	350	7.8
Rayville (Richland)	8,600	7,625	975	11.3	8,425	7,475	950	11.3
Many (Sabine)	8,375	7,700	675	8.0	8,325	7,650	675	8.2
Norco (St. Charles)	22,825	20,500	2,325	10.2	22,750	20,450	2,300	10.2
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,700	4,275	425	8.9	4,550	4,150	400	9.0
Lutcher (St. James)	12,250	10,725	1,525	12.5	11,850	10,400	1,450	12.3
Reserve (St. John)	18,900	16,600	2,300	12.2	18,475	16,275	2,200	11.9
Opelousas (St. Landry)	35,975	30,475	5,500	15.3	35,675	30,125	5,550	15.6
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,225	17,625	2,600	12.9	20,050	17,500	2,550	12.7
Morgan City (St. Mary)	33,525	29,725	3,800	11.4	33,125	29,225	3,900	11.8
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	36,200	31,150	5,050	13.9	35,700	30,500	5,200	14.6
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,275	2,975	300	9.3	3,150	2,825	325	10.3
Houma (Terrebonne)	47,100	42,900	4,200	8.9	46,550	42,250	4,300	9.2
Farmerville (Union)	8,050	7,325	725	9.1	7,975	7,225	750	9.5
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,850	23,350	2,500	9.6	25,800	23,125	2,675	10.4
Leesville (Vernon)	12,925	11,625	1,300	10.1	12,775	11,450	1,325	10.4
Bogalusa (Washington)	15,300	13,175	2,125	13.8	15,050	12,975	2,075	13.8
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,575	3,825	750	16.3	4,250	3,450	800	18.9
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,950	3,725	225	5.7	3,975	3,750	225	5.9
Winnfield (Winn)	5,825	5,325	500	8.6	5,875	5,325	550	9.2

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.3	54.1	53.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	5.6	5.4	5.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.8	2.9	2.8	- 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.7	1.6	- 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	2.8	2.5	2.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.6	0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.7	48.7	48.0	0	+ 0.7
Construction	3.5	3.4	3.6	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.1	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.7	12.8	12.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.8	2.7	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.0	10.0	9.8	0	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Services & Mining	11.7	11.7	11.5	0	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.2	0	0
Other Services & Mining	6.5	6.5	6.3	0	+ 0.2
Government	15.4	15.4	15.4	0	0
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
State	5.8	5.9	5.8	- 0.1	0
Local	6.8	6.7	6.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1

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(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Alexandria area had an estimated nonagricultural employment of 54,300 during August. This employment estimate is 200 more than last month and 1,000 more than this month a year ago.

Total employment in manufacturing increased 200 over the previous month and 300 over this month last year. These increases were primarily due to increased employment at a local food processing plant a little earlier this year.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing is unchanged since last month and 700 more than August of last year. Although the total from last month was unchanged, there were some slight gains with corresponding losses. The major gains over August of last year was in transportation, communication and utilities, which was due to a labor dispute during that month and retail trade due to growth.

During the next thirty days total employment should increase, with the unemployment rate decreasing.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	210.7	210.6	202.7	+ 0.1	+ 8.0
MANUFACTURING	22.2	22.4	22.5	- 0.2	- 0.3
Durable Goods	4.4	4.6	3.9	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.1	0.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	2.0	1.6	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.8	18.6	0	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.0	13.0	13.9	0	- 0.9
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	188.5	188.2	180.2	+ 0.3	+ 8.3
Mining	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Construction	20.8	20.8	20.5	0	+ 0.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.4	9.7	9.2	- 0.3	+ 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	51.5	51.2	48.4	+ 0.3	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	11.3	11.4	11.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	40.2	39.8	37.2	+ 0.4	+ 3.0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.8	12.7	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Services	40.5	40.3	38.5	+ 0.2	+ 2.0
Government	52.6	52.6	50.4	0	+ 2.2

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$509.58	$521.26	$483.05	42.5	44.1	42.9	$11.99	$11.82	$11.26
Petro-Chemicals	674.35	699.19	632.84	46.7	46.8	45.3	14.44	14.94	13.97

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 210,700 during August, was unchanged from the July revised estimate and up 8,000 over the total for last August. Manufacturing was down 200 and nonmanufacturing was up 300 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,200 in August was down 200 from the revised July total. Durable goods were down due to less business in structural clay products, concrete, gypsum and plaster products, in blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling and finishing mills, in miscellaneous primary metal products, and in miscellaneous machinery, except electrical. Nondurable goods had no change during the current period.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 188,500 during August was up 300 from July's revised estimate. Mining, construction and government had no change during the current period. Transportation and public utilities are down due to a partial shut down in trucking, local and long distance, reductions in radio and television broadcasting, and students leaving their summer jobs to return to school. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in machinery, equipment, and supplies and in chemicals and allied products. Retail trade had seasonal increases in grocery stores and in eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance, and real estate increased due to more business in savings and loan associations, life insurance, and in subdividers and developers. Services were up due to more business in personnel supply services, miscellaneous business services, and in engineering, architectural, and surveying services.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 12,600 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $509.58 in August, down $11.68 from July's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 1.6 hours and average hourly earnings were up $0.17. Less overtime worked and more overtime by higher paid employees contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 230,300 during August, up 1,000 over July's revised estimate and up 13,400 over July of last year. Unemployment was down 100 and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 8.3 percent during the current period. The statewide unemployment rate was 9.3 percent during August. The local civilian labor force was up 900 during the current period and up 10,200 over the total for August of last year.

Seasonal changes due to unemployed students withdrawing from the labor force during the coming month should help reduce the local unemployment rate.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 3,600 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 438 applicants in jobs during August.

The consumer price index for July, 1984 for all urban consumers was 311.7 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 307.5 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.1	89.0	85.9	- 0.9	+ 2.2
MANUFACTURING	3.9	3.9	3.6	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	1.9	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.2	1.1	- 0.1	0
NONMANUFACTURING	84.2	85.1	82.3	- 0.9	+ 1.9
Mining	16.2	16.4	15.4	- 0.2	+ 0.8
Construction	4.9	5.0	5.3	- 0.1	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.8	6.8	6.6	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.3	24.9	23.3	- 0.6	+ 1.0
Wholesale Trade	6.7	6.8	6.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	17.6	18.1	16.7	- 0.5	+ 0.9
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Food Stores	2.7	2.7	2.4	0	+ 0.3
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Retail Trade	10.5	11.0	10.0	- 0.5	+ 0.5
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.7	3.7	3.8	0	- 0.1
Services	18.6	18.6	18.7	0	- 0.1
Government	9.7	9.7	9.2	0	+ 0.5

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during August amounted to 88,100, a decrease of 900 from the previous month and an increase of 2,200 from the same period of time a year ago.

Nonmanufacturing employment was estimated at 84,200, a decrease of 900 from July and 1,900 increase from the same period of time a year ago.

Manufacturing employment remained stable in relation to the previous month.

Trade showed a decrease of 600 from the previous month and an increase of 1,000 from the same time period a year ago. This decrease was due in part to a layoff of temporary and part-time help going back to school.

The other industries remained relatively stable showing small increases or decreases in employment.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is predicted to respond to the usual pattern of increase in the next two months.

Unemployment in Lafayette should remain about the same for the next month. There is little indication that onshore drilling will pick up within the remaining months of 1984. Many oil analysts are hoping for a brighter picture in 1985.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From	
				July 1984	August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.4	58.6	61.4	- 0.2	- 3.0
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.2	9.7	0	- 0.5
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	8.9	0	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.6	8.0	0	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.2	49.4	51.7	- 0.2	- 2.5
Mining	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Construction	4.3	4.4	6.2	- 0.1	- 1.9
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.7	4.7	4.3	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.8	13.8	14.5	0	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.3	3.3	0	0
Retail Trade	10.5	10.5	11.2	0	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	2.4	0	- 0.4
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.3	3.2	- 0.1	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.5	10.6	11.0	- 0.1	- 0.5
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.6	10.6	10.5	0	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose 200 over the July total as hiring activity in nonmanufacturing establishments increased. The factory job total remained unchanged. The current nonagricultural employment falls 3,100 jobs below the year ago level and about the largest part of the decline occurred in nonmanufacturing.

The Lake Charles area manufacturing industries remained unchanged from mid-July but fell 500 below the August 1983 total. All of this decline occurred in Nondurable Goods factories.

Most of the 2,600 job loss in nonmanufacturing establishments occurred in Construction, Trade, Services, and Mining "took-up" the remainder.

The outlook is for continued decline in unemployment as the labor force shrinks with summer job seekers returning to school.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

				Net Change From	
	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	July 1984	August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	51.5	51.2	51.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	7.0	6.8	6.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.1	2.0	2.1	+ 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.8	4.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.0	3.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	44.5	44.4	44.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Mining	0.4	0.4	0.6	0	- 0.2
Construction	2.3	2.4	3.2	- 0.1	- 0.9
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.8	2.8	2.5	0	+ 0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.3	14.2	14.3	+ 0.1	0
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.1	4.2	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.2	10.1	10.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.9	2.8	2.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.3	10.2	10.3	+ 0.1	0
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.2	4.2	4.2	0	0
Government	10.3	10.3	9.5	0	+ 0.8

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose by an estimated 300 to 51,500 during mid-August.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,000, was 200 above the July estimate. Other Durable Goods and other Nondurable Goods each had gains of 100.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 44,500, was 100 above the July estimate. Wholesale and Retail Trade was up 100 in Retail Trade. Services showed a gain of 100. The only loss occurred in the depressed Construction industry as it dropped another 100 workers. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next sixty days employment is expected to remain relatively stable as the beginning of the fall semester offsets the lay-off of summer jobs of youths ends. Unemployment will remain high with only slight declines.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	508.6	508.4	501.9	+ 0.2	+ 6.7
MANUFACTURING	40.2	40.1	40.6	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Durable Goods	23.8	23.5	23.9	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.2	3.4	0	- 0.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	3.0	2.9	2.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.3	13.1	13.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.2	8.1	8.6	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.4	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	16.4	16.6	16.7	- 0.2	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	6.8	7.0	7.1	- 0.2	- 0.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.9	1.8	- 0.1	0
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.3	3.2	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	468.4	468.3	461.3	+ 0.1	+ 7.1
Mining	18.5	18.6	18.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Construction	28.3	28.6	31.1	- 0.3	- 2.8
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.3	46.0	45.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	15.9	15.7	16.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132.9	132.8	129.5	+ 0.1	+ 3.4
Wholesale Trade	35.2	35.3	35.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	97.7	97.5	94.4	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.7	31.7	32.0	0	- 0.3
Services	125.2	124.7	121.4	+ 0.5	+ 3.8
Government	85.5	85.9	83.2	- 0.4	+ 2.3
Federal	14.8	14.9	14.8	- 0.1	0
State	19.5	19.9	20.0	- 0.4	- 0.5
Local	51.2	51.1	48.4	+ 0.1	+ 2.8

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$378.27	$391.53	$340.96	40.5	42.1	37.8	$9.34	$9.30	$9.02
Durable Goods	392.47	422.32	358.59	41.4	43.9	38.6	9.48	9.62	9.29
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	366.86	420.44	354.45	41.5	45.8	42.5	8.84	9.18	8.34
Fabricated Metal Products	478.95	486.73	454.10	54.8	56.4	42.4	8.74	8.63	10.71
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	384.77	413.92	323.56	38.4	40.7	35.4	10.02	10.17	9.14
Nondurable Goods	356.98	348.88	314.03	39.1	39.6	36.6	9.13	8.81	8.58
Food & Kindred Products	281.24	291.01	261.34	37.7	40.7	35.8	7.46	7.15	7.30
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	147.48	147.74	127.87	32.7	31.3	30.3	4.51	4.72	4.22
Paper & Allied Products	391.72	374.02	341.14	46.8	44.9	41.3	8.37	8.33	8.26
Printing & Publishing	353.20	371.13	298.34	40.0	41.1	38.2	8.83	9.03	7.81
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	662.91	573.31	566.71	41.2	38.4	39.3	16.09	14.93	14.42

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 26,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in August moved up to 508,600, a level 200 above July. Both nonmanufacturing and manufacturing exhibited minor overall upturns.

Manufacturing employment totaled 40,200 in August, 100 over last month's total. Increases in machinery and transportation equipment offset decreases in food and kindred products. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment has decreased by 400.

Nonmanufacturing registered an overall increase of 100, with increases in several industries offsetting decreases in others. Local government reflected a seasonal upturn by the public schools. State and federal government showed decreases. Both wholesale and retail trade exhibited increases over the month. Back-to-school shopping benefitted both general merchandise stores and miscellaneous retail stores. Unfavorable was the downturn in eating and drinking places. Services were boosted by gains in business and educational services. Transportation enjoyed increases in water transportation and motor freight transportation. Construction lost workers in building construction and employment by special trade contractors; heavy construction increased slightly.

Area production workers earned an average $378.27 in August, down $13.26 from last month. An increase of four cents in average hourly earnings could not compensate for the drop of one hour and forty eight minutes in average weekly hours. Average weekly earnings are up $37.31 compared with the average one year ago.

Estimated unemployment in August increased to 47,400, up 300 from July. Current joblessness comprises 8.7 percent of the labor force compared to 8.7 percent in July and 10.4 percent in August of last year. The unemployment rate in August was lower than the state rate of 9.3 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.3 percent.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months will probably display an overall upturn. Private and public educational services will pull back up from the summer low as the fall school term moves along. Unemployment will likely show an overall decrease as many students return to school.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	148.8	150.8	147.8	- 2.0	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	26.3	26.6	23.8	- 0.3	+ 2.5
Durable Goods	20.6	20.8	18.0	- 0.2	+ 2.6
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.6	1.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Metals and Machinery	13.1	13.1	10.8	0	+ 2.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	4.0	4.0	3.6	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	9.1	9.1	7.2	0	+ 1.9
Other Durable Goods	6.0	6.1	5.5	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Nondurable Goods	5.7	5.8	5.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.6	1.5	- 0.1	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	122.5	124.2	124.0	- 1.7	- 1.5
Mining	6.5	6.7	6.0	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Construction	9.7	10.1	9.9	- 0.4	- 0.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.4	9.5	9.4	- 0.1	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.1	34.5	34.4	- 0.4	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.3	8.8	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	25.0	25.2	25.6	- 0.2	- 0.6
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.2	8.1	- 0.1	0
Services	32.1	32.6	32.0	- 0.5	+ 0.1
Government	22.6	22.6	24.2	0	- 1.6

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$402.37	$381.44	$376.36	41.1	39.9	39.7	$9.79	$9.56	$9.48
Lumber and Wood Products	231.73	225.42	223.67	40.3	39.0	40.3	5.75	5.78	5.55
Metals and Machinery	409.08	368.24	372.27	42.0	40.6	39.9	9.74	9.07	9.33
Food and Kindred Products	265.50	270.93	200.53	43.1	41.3	33.2	6.16	6.56	6.04
Printing and Publishing	248.93	248.93	240.04	31.0	31.0	30.5	8.03	8.03	7.87
Petroleum and Coal Products	559.02	578.40	517.33	46.2	48.2	45.3	12.10	12.00	11.42

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 20,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Shreveport Labor Market Area had an estimated 148,800 in total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, compared with 150,800 last month and 147,800 in August, 1983. Employment dropped during the past month in the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors.

The total manufacturing estimate of 26,300 shows a decline of 300 from last month and an increase of 2,500 from one year ago. During the past month the durable goods employment total fell 200 with losses divided between lumber and wood products and other durable goods. An additional decline occurred in nondurable goods employment with the slight reduction of printing and publishing activity.

Total nonmanufacturing employment fell from the revised July estimate of 124,200 to 122,500. The most significant employment reduction occurred in services, construction, and trade. During the past month services employment declined from 32,600 to 32,100, while construction fell from 10,100 to 9,700 and trade employment moved down from 34,500 to 34,100.

Other employment losses from July to August includes mining, down 200, transportation and public utilities, down 100, and finance, insurance & real estate, down 100.

A total of 20,600 production workers in manufacturing in the Shreveport Labor Area had average weekly earnings of $402.37. The average weekly hours worked were 41.1, an increase over the revised July average of 39.9. The average hourly earnings increased from $9.56 to $9.79.

The Shreveport Labor Area has a civilian labor force of 171,100, including 158,300 employed and 12,800 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 7.5 percent, compared with 10.8 percent one year ago.

The outlook for this area is that the usual seasonal employment increase will be reflected in the September estimates. Unemployment will likely remain near the current level. An ongoing strike involving a major manufacturer in this area, if prolonged, will cause additional unemployment.